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# USSR Report

MILITARY AFFAIRS

No. 1492



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CONTENTS	PAGE
Articles on Tankmen's Day Celebration (Various sources, various dates) .....	1
Material for Talks, Reports Strength of Armored Troops, by P. Rotmistrov Interview With Losik, O. A. Losik Interview Present-day Tank Troops, by D. Lelyushenko Tactical Exercises, Practices, by I. Gusakovskiy Tank Troops Latest Achievements, by Yu. Potapov Tank: Sophisticated Combat Vehicle, Yu. M. Potapov Interview Combat Experience of Tankmen, by Yu. Potapov Contemporary Tank, Tank Troops, by Yu. Potapov	
Tank Tactics Against Antitank Missiles Described (G. Kubitanov; ZNAMENOSETS, May 79) .....	21
Chemical Reconnaissance Unit Training Described (N. Budnik; ZNAMENOSETS, May 79) .....	27
Aviation Support Unit Decontamination Training Described (N. Artemov; ZNAMENOSETS, May 79) .....	32
Infantry Combat Vehicle Firing Training Aid Described (G. Shinkarev; ZNAMENOSETS, May 79) .....	35
NATO Heliborne Assault Landing Tactics Discussed (Z. Moseyev; ZNAMENOSETS, May 79) .....	40
Contents of Individual Personnel Files Described (P. Korobkov Interview; ZNAMENOSETS, May 79) .....	44
Technical Support of Armed Forces Discussed (G. Gusev; AGITATOR ARMII I FLOTA, Oct 79) .....	47



CONTENTS (Continued)	Page
U.S. Armed Forces: Role From Soviet View (R. Simonyan; AGITATOR ARMII I FLOTA, Oct 79) .....	52
L'Vov Higher Military-Political School Activities (V. Ilyk; AGITATOR ARMII I FLOTA, Nov 79) .....	55
Psychological Warfare: Western Methods Discussed (D. Volkogonov; AGITATOR ARMII I FLOTA, Nov 79) .....	59
Turkestan Political Chief on Criticism, Self-Criticism (V. Rodin; KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 25 Nov 79) .....	64
Armed Forces Political Directorate Discusses Ideology Resolution (KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 5 Dec 79) .....	67
Political Indoctrination: Tasks and Methods Discussed (V. Samoylenko; KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 14 Dec 79) .....	70
Civil Defense: Pamphlet Reviewed (M. Rakcheyev; KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 8 Jan 80) .....	73

## ARTICLES ON TANKMEN'S DAY CELEBRATION

### Material for Talks, Reports

Moscow KOMMUNIST VOORUZHENNYKH SIL in Russian No 15, Aug 79 pp 16-21

[Article: "Armored Shield of the Homeland: Material for Reports and Talks on Tankmen's Day"]

[Excerpts] On 9 September personnel of the Army and Navy, tank construction personnel and all our people celebrate Tankmen's Day--the traditional holiday for the Soviet armored troops, who covered themselves with unfading glory in fighting for the honor, freedom and independence of the socialist homeland. It is generally known that Tankmen's Day was established by a USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium Ukase dated 11 June 1946 to mark the outstanding services of the armored troops of the Soviet Army in the Great Patriotic War, as well as the services of tank construction personnel in outfitting the troops with armored equipment. It is celebrated annually on the second Sunday in September.

This year Tankmen's Day is being celebrated in an atmosphere of enormous political and labor enthusiasm of the Soviet people. Rallied closely about the Communist Party, the Leninist Central Committee, and the CPSU CC Politburo headed by Comrade L. I. Brezhnev, our country's workers and personnel of the Army and Navy are persistently struggling to implement the historic decisions of the 25th party congress. National socialist competition is broadening everywhere for raising the effectiveness of production and quality of work and for fulfilling and overfulfilling quotas of the fourth year of the 10th Five-Year Plan.

Our remarkable designers and inventors--M. I. Koshkin, N. L. Dukhov, Zh. Ya. Kotin, A. A. Morozov, N. A. Kucherenko and other talented engineers and technicians--have made a great contribution toward the creation of new models of combat weaponry. The T-34 tank, created on the eve of the Great Patriotic War, became a true masterpiece in the history of world tank construction. It rightfully has been declared the best tank in the world of World War II times and of the first postwar years. For many years the T-34 defined the paths for development of combat vehicle designs not only here in our country, but also abroad.

The victory of the Soviet people and their Armed Forces in the Great Patriotic War was of historic importance for further strengthening the forces of socialism, peace and progress. It contributed to a strengthening of the USSR's position as the first socialist state in the world, and to the enormous growth in its international authority and influence. The titanic efforts of the party and people in our country built the first developed socialist society in the world. A community of socialist states was born and grew strong. Welded by a commonality of order and ideology and by adherence to the cause of peace, socialism, democracy and national independence, it represents the most dynamic economic force and the leading factor in world politics. CPSU CC Politburo Member, USSR Minister of Defense Mar SU D. F. Ustinov states that "through the efforts of the USSR and other socialist countries the development of international relations was turned from the path leading to war onto another path--the path of detente and peaceful coexistence of states with different social systems."

The Land of Soviets acts firmly and consistently for a cessation of the arms race and for disarmament. The signing of the Soviet-American Treaty on the second stage in the limitation of strategic offensive arms by CPSU Central Committee General Secretary, Chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet L. I. Brezhnev and U.S. President J. Carter became a new, major success in the politics of peace and relaxation of international tensions. The implementation of this treaty will be an important step in restraining the arms race and will contribute to the success of other treaties on disarmament as well as a normalization of the international situation as a whole.

But reactionary circles of imperialism are stubbornly resisting the process of relaxation of international tensions and are whipping up the arms race. The Peking leadership is acting as one with them. China's criminal aggression against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and military provocations against Laos, the decision by the Chinese side to break off the Treaty on Friendship, Alliance and Mutual Assistance between the Soviet Union and the People's Republic of China, as well as many other facts attest that Peking is activating its adventuristic policy of great-power chauvinism and hegemonism, which is creating a serious threat to peace. Moreover, this threat is increasing in connection with attempts by imperialist circles to take advantage of China's anti-Soviet, antisocialist course for their own mercenary purposes.

The Soviet Union and other fraternal socialist countries are countering the crafty intrigues by the aggressive forces of imperialism and reaction with high vigilance and an invariably firm, vigorous and consistent struggle for peace, combining it with a strengthening of their own defenses and with constant readiness to repulse aggression no matter where it originates.

The Soviet Armed Forces fundamentally changed in postwar years and strode far ahead in their development. While serving under colors steeped in legendary glory, the present generation of Soviet military personnel,

including tankmen, is sacredly cherishing and augmenting the heroic positions of the frontlinesmen and is seeking a further increase in the combat-effectiveness and combat readiness of units large and small. Defenders of the homeland fervently approve the Leninist course of their native Communist Party. They are persistently mastering the formidable weapons and sophisticated technology entrusted to them. They are steadfastly improving their schooling and keeping their powder dry.

In recent years the Soviet tank troops have risen to a qualitatively new level in their development and combat improvement. Possessing high mobility, powerful rapid-fire weapons, and strong armor protection, they are preserving the role as the chief shock force of the Ground Forces.

The might of the Soviet tank troops is determined not only by the first-rate combat equipment, but also by the remarkable people in whose sure hands this equipment is located. Soviet military personnel are fiery patriots-internationalists and true sons of the socialist homeland. They are thoroughly developed, politically mature, well trained defenders of the Motherland. A high level of general educational and technical training allows the young tankmen to master combat specialties in short periods of time, to act confidently as part of crews, to control the formidable machines and to conduct accurate fire. With their military deeds the soldiers are striving to justify the trust placed in them and worthily bear the glory of their fathers who defended the Soviet Motherland in the Great Patriotic War. They remember well the words Comrade L. I. Brezhnev directed to them: "To serve and defend one's homeland is a high honor for any Soviet citizen and for any soldier."

Intensive work is in full swing at the test ranges, tank practice areas and firing ranges during these hot days of summer combat training. Commanders and political workers are striving to ensure that every tankman has a good knowledge of his weapons and equipment and firmly masters the science of winning forged in fierce battles for the Motherland. Socialist competition serves as a powerful means for increasing the soldiers' activeness and initiative in a struggle for exemplary mastery of combat equipment and weapons, for their accidentfree operations and for improvement in the effectiveness and quality of training. During the current training year it has developed under the motto "Stand vigilantly on guard over the achievements of socialism and increase the combat readiness and level of military expertise in every possible way." Competition exerts an enormous stimulating effect on all aspects of the personnel's indoctrination and training, but is manifested with special force in arranging for interchangeability of crew members and in ensuring a high technical standard of maintenance, storage and upkeep of the sophisticated, diversified equipment.

Many military collectives are successfully accomplishing missions of summer combat training. For example, take the Novgorod-Berlin Triple-Order Guards Tank Regiment. Effective use is made of training time here and strict, regulation order is maintained. An attempt is made to fill classes and practices with complex narrative problems. Regimental personnel, like all

Soviet military personnel, are persistently mastering the sophisticated equipment and weapons and augmenting the ranks of masters of military affairs, rated specialists, and otlichniki of combat and political training. Party and Komsomol members set the example in training, service and discipline. The tankmen are celebrating their holiday with high achievements in military labor and in socialist competition.

The tank subunits where Master of Combat Qualification Maj A. Maksimov, Gds Maj A. Nikolayev and Gds Capt I. Nikitin serve also are accomplishing the missions assigned them successfully.

The achievements of these and many other military collectives are the result of the joint efforts of commanders, political workers, and the party and Komsomol organizations. They show constant concern for a further increase in effectiveness of ideological and political indoctrination work and are doing everything to ensure an integrated approach to organizing indoctrination and to achieve close unity of ideological-political, military and moral indoctrination of privates, NCO's, warrant officers, officers and generals. The basis for this work is a thorough study of the works of Lenin, decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress, documents of subsequent Party Central Committee Plenums, the USSR Constitution, and works by Comrade L. I. Brezhnev. The CPSU CC Decree "On Further Improvement of Ideological and Political Indoctrination Work" generated great interest and a fervent response in the military personnel. In fulfilling the requirements of this decree, commanders, political entities and party and Komsomol organizations are seeking to achieve a further increase in effectiveness of political indoctrination work. The troops are devoting much attention to a vivid and persuasive demonstration of the grandeur of communist ideals, the all-conquering force of Marxism-Leninism, and the productive, tireless work of the CPSU to strengthen the might of the Soviet Motherland and increase the people's welfare, the historic advantages of socialism and its genuine democratism and humanism. Personnel receive a tireless and intelligible explanation of the Leninist peaceloving foreign political course of the Communist Party and Soviet government, the achievements of real socialism, and the solidarity with peoples of countries of the socialist community, with the international working class and with the national liberation movement, a solidarity that is growing from year to year. The purposeful work of commanders, political entities, and the party and Komsomol organizations aimed at fulfilling the demands of the CPSU CC decree is contributing to a further increase in the quality and effectiveness of ideological and political indoctrination work and to the successful accomplishment of tasks facing the troops.

As is the case with all Army and Navy personnel, the tankmen constantly remember the intrigues of reactionary forces of imperialism and their accomplices. Rallied closely about the Communist Party, defenders of the socialist homeland see their duty in maintaining high vigilance, discipline and efficiency, honorably accomplishing the missions assigned to the Soviet Armed Forces by the 25th CPSU Congress, and being in constant readiness guaranteeing an immediate rebuff to any aggressor.



## Strength of Armored Troops

Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 9 Sep 79 pp 1, 3

[Article by Chief Mar Armd Trps P. Rotmistrov, Hero SU: "9 September-- Tankmen's Day: True Sons of the Homeland"]

[Excerpts] Our Motherland is celebrating Tankmen's Day another time. This is a remarkable patriotic holiday of military personnel, workers, engineers and technicians who are producing the formidable equipment. It is a holiday for veterans who carried their colors with honor and glory through all decisive battles of the Great Patriotic War. It is a holiday of all the Soviet people who love their Armed Forces and glorify their true sons--the tankmen who stand on guard over the peaceful labor of the homeland.

This year Tankmen's Day is being held under conditions of major successes in the domestic and foreign policy of the Soviet state. The Peace Program developed by the 24th and 25th congresses of our party is being implemented successfully. The political climate on the planet has warmed up thanks to persistent struggle by the party and active work in the international arena by CPSU CC General Secretary and Chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, Leonid Il'ich Brezhnev. Our state's achievements in the struggle for peace rest on the growing economic and defense might of the Land of Soviets and on our historic victory in World War II. It lifted the prestige of the Soviet Union on high and made its voice especially ponderable in the solution to important international problems.

In recent years the Soviet tank troops have gone up to a qualitatively new level in their development and combat improvement. New combat vehicles have appeared which have more powerful armor. Weapons have improved qualitatively. Means of control have been perfected. Electronics have found wide application. The trafficability and range of tanks has increased. With high mobility and powerful, rapid-fire weapons, the tanks are retaining for themselves the role of chief shock force of the Ground Forces.

Of course, the strength of our armored troops lies not just in the sophisticated, contemporary combat equipment. Equipment in itself is dead without people. It only becomes powerful and formidable when it is controlled by brave, competent soldiers utterly devoted to the Motherland. And it is pleasant for me, an old soldier, to note on this festive day that our tanks are in the strong, reliable hands of a new generation of tankmen, who are always ready to perform their filial duty to the Motherland. It is a joy to realize that our tank units are controlled by strong-willed commanders who have creatively assimilated the experience of the Great Patriotic War and who know the techniques and laws of modern warfare.

Yes, we are proud of the strength and might of our armored troops, who always are ready to stand up in defense of our Motherland, although some people abroad do not like it.

The mass media in the West lately have unfolded a furious propaganda campaign, frightening the man in the street with the "Soviet military threat." It pursues clearly mercenary goals of the military-industrial complex and aggressive circles of NATO and the United States to get additional appropriations for the arms race from their parliaments. Much is being written about Soviet tanks in Eastern Europe. I have to say that this is a false propaganda campaign. Our Armed Forces do not have an aggressive direction and set as their goal the provision of reliable protection for the achievements of socialism and the territorial integrity of the Soviet state and our allies. And so there is no basis to speak of any kind of military threat, let alone a threat by armored troops especially. We are maintaining that quantity of tanks in Eastern Europe which we have to have for purely defensive purposes.

#### Interview With Losik

Moscow KOMSOMOL'SKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 9 Sep 79 pp 1-2

[Correspondent A. Tarasov's interview with Hero SU, professor, Mar Armd Trps O. A. Losik: "Today is Tankmen's Day: The Homeland's Armor"]

[Excerpts] [Question] Oleg Aleksandrovich, one who has served in the tank troops can never forget this: It is evening, and it is still. The armor is cooling off after heavy work. The bitter dust is settling on the route of the tank training area... And there is a feeling of oneness of the crew, especially when the lads have not let you down and you yourself have not disgraced yourself. And in such minutes even the vehicle appears to be a living being who has worked well.

[Answer] It is probably in a tank as nowhere else that one has a feeling of nearness, cohesiveness in actions, and complete mutual understanding by friends without superfluous words. A tank crew is small in size--three or four persons. It is easy to assume that there can be as many brothers in one family. For this reason fraternal relationships usually form in a crew, especially after a joint surmounting of the first difficulties. The fact is that the work of every tanker is apparent on a march, during a firing and in the servicing of the vehicle. Everything is divided equally--the work, the sweat, the joy of victory and the bitterness of defeat. The first thing a young tanker sees when he is placed in a crew is that one cannot hide here behind a comrade's back.

The tanker understands full well that he not only has to perform his work excellently and not only create the best conditions for fighting for a comrade, but also to replace him when necessary. Each crew member, whether he be a first-term private, a warrant officer or an officer, is able to drive a tank, fire from it, service a vehicle and, if necessary, give it "first aid" when there is damage to the track or control cable...

It seems to me that this kind of service, where all qualities of a young person undergo a check--both professional military qualities and moral qualities--creates that special spiritual mood which later is remembered for life.

[Question] Today young tankmen approach the legendary "34" with bated breath. But much water has flowed under the bridge since it fought. If the modern tank is placed next to it, what can be said about the improvement in this kind of weapon?

[Answer] In the universal recognition of specialists, the Soviet "T-34" tank was really a masterpiece in the history of world tank construction.

But time has passed. Fundamental transformations have occurred in military affairs with the appearance of nuclear missile weapons. They required a sharp increase in the combat capabilities of all means of armed warfare, including tanks.

As a matter of fact, the "34" looks on its "children" and "grandchildren" with a certain envy. The tanks of our days are equipped with enormously more powerful and faster firing artillery weapons and more "penetrating" ammunition. The system of optical, electrical and electronic instruments permits faultless detection and destruction of a target. The crew of the modern tank "sees" at night as during the day, and the blacker the night, the better the visibility. The gunners of the "34" recall how an enemy tank or gun jumped in the sight when firing from the move. Today a stabilizer keeps the gun "immobile" with relation to the target no matter how uneven the route or how much the tank is jostled.

The engine's power, higher maneuverability, speed and trafficability of modern tanks, and the capability of negotiating water obstacles under the water or afloat on their own without lengthy preparation--all this gives the tankman a truly powerful weapon forged by the Soviet people for defense of their peaceful labor.

[Question] Permit me to remind the readers that on 25 October 1944 KOMSOMOL'SKAYA PRAVDA printed a picture of Hero SU Col Oleg Losik, young commander of a tank brigade. Brigade commander Losik was given this high award after his brigade's tanks were first to burst onto the streets of Minsk. Oleg Aleksandrovich, friends and compatriots who laid down their lives in fighting for the Motherland are recalled especially during the military holidays. Which of them would you name today?

[Answer] Let's ponder the words "mass heroism." There were 250,000 tankmen decorated with orders and medals, with an exploit behind each one decorated. There were 1,155 tankmen who received the title Hero of the Soviet Union, and 16 of them were awarded this title twice.

Of course, memory retains many samples of the tankmen's unparalleled courage. Each of them is worthy of admiration.

[Question] There are legends about the courage and resourcefulness of Soviet tankmen. Tell the readers, please, about situations which sometimes are termed nonstandard. For example, it is known that the T-34 tank managed to cross a river under water...

[Answer] There were several such instances during the war. For example, in the Battle for the Dnepr in October 1943, the 5th Guards Tank Corps had to cross the Desna River. There was no crossing and the ford was too deep. All hopes were placed on the keen wits of the tankmen. And so the tankmen were sealing the vehicles in front of the crossing, caulking all openings of the turret and bottom with canvas and rags soaked in solidol and resin... Tank after tank cautiously submerged in the water. The drivers controlled them blindly from a command from the turret, which barely peeped out of the water with the hatch open slightly.

Sixty-five tanks crossed the river in two hours, and at that time it was a great surprise to the enemy and a unique incident. During Exercise Dnepr in 1967 hundreds of tanks crossed the Dnepr under water in these same areas, and this already was quite natural.

The duel between a tank and an armored train can be termed "atypical." The fact is that one hit by the large-caliber gun of the armored turret could blow the tank to bits. Nevertheless, our tankmen entered such a duel and came out the winners more than once.

[Question] Oleg Aleksandrovich, you now are in charge of the Academy of Armored Troops imeni Mar SU R. Ya. Malinovskiy. Tell the young readers what the science of winning consists of for the contemporary tankman and how the heirs to the victors master it.

[Answer] The tank penetration forces, "slicing" through an impregnable defense, cutting across deserts, mountains and forest masses at high speed, and knowing no obstacles either on land or on the water, are of course controlled by people. Military personnel, chiefly those who recognize their duty to the people as defender of their father's home, can control such powerful and sophisticated equipment. This realization helps to endure the hardships of military service and to improve one's expertise in mastering weaponry.

In the recent Exercise "Neman" of the Red Banner Baltic Military District, tankmen operated under near-combat conditions. They demonstrated the heightened tactical maturity, high moral-combat qualities, and the ability to operate swiftly and daringly in various kinds of warfare.

Our time places special demands on the young officer in the tank troops. He must be a highly skilled commander and engineer. He must faultlessly

direct the cohesive actions of a few or many tanks and have an excellent knowledge of military history, psychology and pedagogics. He sets the example of moral and ideological steadfastness and physical endurance. The young specialists, almost of the same age, strive to equal him, respecting the commander's experience in life and his profession.

Our Academy, which in a year celebrates its 50th anniversary, rightfully is proud of its contribution toward preparing command and engineer cadres for the tank troops. Among its graduates are 262 Heroes of the Soviet Union, 10 Twice Heroes of the Soviet Union, and many renowned generals and marshals. This year's detachment of graduates tried to be worthy of these traditions. Twelve officers completed the Academy with a gold medal and 107 received an honors diploma.

I must say that even the replacements accepted this year within the walls of the only tank academy in the world excellently represent the colors of their generation. These are the best young officers of the tank troops. Despite their youth, over a hundred of them were decorated with orders and medals. The political, military and specialized knowledge acquired in the Academy will help them become even more capable commanders and to stand guard with dignity over the peaceful labor of our people.

#### Present-day Tank Troops

Riga SOVETSKAYA LATVIYA in Russian 9 Sep 79 p 1

[Article by Arm Gen D. Lelyushenko, Twice Hero SU: "Armored Shield of the Country"]

[Excerpts] Our country annually celebrates Tankmen's Day. It was established in honor of the great services of the military tankmen in defense of the socialist Motherland against external enemies. The tank troops, like all the USSR Armed Forces, vigilantly guard the creative labor of their people and the tranquility of their Motherland not only in menacing war years, but even today. This is their primary and sole purpose as defined by the USSR Constitution.

Just what are the present-day Soviet tank troops? They have taken far-reaching strides in their technical outfitting. New T-54 and T-55 tanks with greater firepower and stronger armored protection, heightened maneuverability and other advantages in comparison with the T-34 were created in the postwar years. Then more sophisticated machines appeared--the T-62 and T-72. Their design concentrated both the experience of the past war and the latest achievements of scientific-technological progress, and took account of the most important demands for waging modern warfare.

The strength of the tank troops is determined not only by combat equipment, but also by the people in whose hands this equipment is located. As with all personnel of our Armed Forces, Soviet tankmen are fiery patriots--internationalists and true sons of the socialist homeland. They are



politically mature, technically competent, well trained defenders of the Motherland.

The world knows well that the Soviet Union is conducting a policy of peace, that it never threatened anyone with war and attacked no one.

CPSU Central Committee General Secretary, Chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, L. I. Brezhnev declared in answering questions of the West German weekly VORWAERTS: "The Soviet Union has no intention of attacking a single state in the West, in the East, in the North or in the South. The Soviet Union is not planning to 'conquer' Western Europe at all. And our General Staff is not working on a timetable for 'moving to the Channel.' The bounds of Soviet military organizational development are determined by the limits of necessary defense. And in estimating the defensive needs of the USSR, one also has to recall the geographic position of our country."

#### Tactical Exercises, Practices

Moscow TRUD in Russian 9 Sep 79 p 3

[Article by Arm Gen I. Gusakovskiy, Twice Hero SU: "Today is Tankmen's Day: The Steel Guard"]

[Excerpts] Let's transfer ourselves mentally to one of our Red Banner military districts, where intensive combat training is in full swing in these days. The Far East Military District, for example, where taiga marshes and sharp-peaked mountains rise up in the soldiers' paths, or to the Transcaucasus Military District, where our valorous fighting men have to cross high-mountain valleys, turbulent rivers, gorges and canyons during a march. Almost everywhere the tanks--this chief shock force of our ground forces--take part in tactical exercises and practices. It is practically impossible to win success in modern warfare without the powerful onslaught of the swift armored vehicles.

I recall one of the exercises in the Baltic Military District, which I had occasion to command in the postwar years. The "South" was conducting an offensive and encountered a powerful grouping of "North" forces. A fierce fight broke out. In one sector the commander estimated the situation accurately and opportunely and introduced tank subunits, unexpectedly for the "enemy," in a sector very vulnerable for the "North." They quickly moved up to the line of attack and occupied a favorable base of operations while suppressing weapons emplacements and strongpoints and conducting heavy fire on the move from main guns and machineguns. The tanks helped the "South" troops to a considerable extent in this manner in developing the success subsequently as well.

I began with this example not because I myself am an old tanker and spent the entire Great Patriotic War in fierce fighting among these troops. And

not because I fell in love with these powerful steel machines in my combat youth. The fact is that in all stages of our history when the Soviet people had to clash with a crafty, strong enemy, the tankmen always were in the vanguard. Created on the great Lenin's personal instructions and receiving their first baptism of fire in the crucible of the Civil War, the Soviet armored troops crushed the enemy at Lake Khasan and on the Khalkhin-Gol River and participated in fighting against the White Finns on the Karelian Isthmus and in other prewar operations.

For the fourth decade now the Soviet people have been living and working under conditions of peace. In this time our state's economic potential has risen immeasurably. While accomplishing the tasks of developing the national economy, the party devotes unremitting attention both to strengthening the country's defenses and to increasing the combat might of the Army and Navy. It calls on all Soviet citizens and personnel of the Armed Forces for constant vigilance and readiness to offer a rebuff to any intrigues of the aggressive reactionary circles of imperialism and its accomplices. CPSU Central Committee General Secretary, Chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, Comrade L. I. Brezhnev said aboard the cruiser "Admiral Senyavin": "We are improving our defenses for one purpose: to defend the achievements of the Great October reliably and to firmly protect the peaceful labor of Soviet citizens and of our friends and allies. Personnel of the Soviet Army and Navy serve this noble goal."

The tank troops play an important role in the country's defense. In the postwar years they have developed on the basis of the latest technology and with consideration of contemporary views on conducting the battle and operation. Despite the improvement and growth in effectiveness of antitank weapons, the tank troops with their great shock force, powerful fire and high maneuverability remain one of the primary combat arms.

The contemporary tank has reliable protection against the shock wave, light radiation and penetrating radiation of a nuclear burst. Its firepower and mobility have risen significantly. Stabilization of tank weapons ensured a sharp increase in the accuracy of fire. The tank now has no need to halt to fire. Fire is conducted on the move, with the speed practically not being reduced, while aiming capability remains the same. With the help of special equipment these combat vehicles can successfully negotiate the bottom of a river or lake of varying depth and width. New night vision instruments permit the crew to conduct aimed fire at night.

Service in the tank troops is full of military romanticism. It requires people to have a good technical training and good physical and psychological conditioning. Our tankmen attempt to operate in exercises, on marches and campaigns just as in real combat. Socialist competition now has unfolded in the units for outstanding mastery of combat equipment and for training rated specialists. The personnel of our crews are mastering related specialties. The powerful weapons of the tank troops are in reliable hands. A high degree of schooling and constant combat readiness of

the tankmen is a reliable guarantee of the inviolability of the borders of our Motherland and countries of the socialist community. Soviet tankmen always are on guard!

#### Tank Troops Latest Achievements

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 9 Sep 79 p 2

[Article by Col Gen Yu. Potapov, chief of tank troops: "Reliable Armor of the Homeland"]

[Excerpts] Thirty-four years have passed since the day of the world historic Victory of the Soviet people and their Armed Forces. During this time the Soviet state's economic potential and its international authority have grown immeasurably. Our party and government have directed the efforts of the people at implementing the tasks set by the 25th CPSU Congress and are firmly and consistently conducting a course for preventing a new world war and for relaxing international tension. The signing of the Soviet-American Treaty on a Limitation of Strategic Arms (SALT-2) was a major success of the policy of peace and detente.

But the peaceloving course of the Soviet Union and other fraternal socialist countries is opposed by the aggressive forces of imperialism. They are continuing the arms race, strengthening existing military blocs, creating new ones, organizing plots and provocations, and not ceasing subversive actions against countries of the socialist community. The Peking leaders are forming an alliance with the most reactionary forces of imperialism.

In ensuring the country's security, the party and government and all our people are devoting unremitting attention to increasing the combat might of the Army and Navy. CPSU Central Committee General Secretary and Chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, Comrade L. I. Brezhnev, emphasized: "We never threaten. . . . We are improving our defenses for one purpose: to reliably defend the achievements of the Great October and to firmly protect the peaceful labor of Soviet citizens and of our friends and allies."

The Soviet tankmen worthily perform military service in the combat formation of the Armed Forces. The tank troops are at a new level in their development. Taking account of the appearance of new means of armed warfare and the sharp increase in effectiveness of antitank weapons, our designers and tank builders created more powerful and more sophisticated tanks and a reliable infantry combat vehicle. They embody the latest achievements of science and technology.

Contemporary Soviet tanks have excellent weapons, reliable protection against various means of destruction, high speed and trafficability, and long range. Observation and firing instruments permit driving tanks under all conditions of terrain and weather and hitting targets under limited

visibility and at night. Tanks are adapted to perform combat operations both involving the use of conventional weapons and under conditions of use of nuclear missile weaponry. The massing of tanks in decisive sectors, their high shock force and their swift operations together with other combat arms ensure high tempos in an attack.

The increased might of the tank troops is determined not only by the first-rate combat equipment. Ideologically persuaded people who expertly master the equipment and weapons are the primary force. Our combat formation is strong with just such people. The Soviet tankmen constantly feel the love of the people and the party's paternal concern. They perceived as a manifestation of this concern Comrade L. I. Brezhnev's visit to a tank unit of the Order of Lenin Transbaikal Military District, where Leonid Il'ich performed service in the thirties, during his trip through parts of Siberia and the Far East.

Personnel of the tank troops, utterly devoted to their people, are persistently accomplishing missions set for the Armed Forces by the 25th CPSU Congress. The tankmen sacredly revere and are augmenting the grand combat traditions of frontlinesmen. The combat experience of the heroic past and remarkable traditions represent a great force in training young soldiers and in instilling in them high moral-combat qualities.

Commanders, political entities, staffs, and the party and Komsomol organizations are guided in their training and indoctrination of personnel by decisions of the 25th party congress, by demands of the CPSU Central Committee Decree "On Further Improvement of Ideological and Political Indoctrination Work," and by the propositions and recommendations contained in the speeches and works of L. I. Brezhnev. They see their task in ensuring the unity of ideological-political, military and moral indoctrination of the Motherland's defenders. Socialist competition is widely developed in the tank troops. In the final phase of summer combat training, the tankmen are struggling even more vigorously to fulfill all training plans, programs and competition pledges with quality. Every hour and every minute is being strictly accounted for.

The tankmen are celebrating their holiday with high achievements in military labor. There are many tank units among the right-flankers of competition in the Ground Forces. Among them is the aforementioned Guards Tank Regiment imeni G. I. Kotovskiy. It has held the title of outstanding for four years. Many large and small units have achieved significant success in struggling for accidentfree operation of equipment, for extending its service life, for saving fuel, for increasing march speeds, and for complete interchangeability in crews. This attests to a further increase in their combat readiness.

Tank officers Yu. Netkachev, V. Neverov, N. Kashinskiy, Ya. Koval'chuk, N. Kondrat'yev and many others are known as masters of their work and skilled organizers of training and competition in the military districts, groups of forces, combined units and units.



The tank builders who steadfastly improve our formidable combat weapons also are celebrating Tankmen's Day with grand deeds. These weapons are in reliable hands. Rallied closely about the Communist Party and utterly dedicated to the sacred ideals of communism, the tankmen are in single formation of Soviet military personnel and, together with the fraternal armies of Warsaw Pact member nations, they always are ready to perform their patriotic and international duty of defending the sacred borders of the Motherland and the historic achievements of socialism and communism.

#### Tank: Sophisticated Combat Vehicle

Moscow NEDELYA in Russian No 36, 1979 pp 12-13

[Interview by V. Naumov of Col Gen Yu. M. Potapov, chief of tank troops of the Soviet Army: "The Tank on the Pedestal"]

[Excerpts] Yuriy Mikhaylovich Potapov belongs to one of many family dynasties in our Army. Its founder, M. M. Potapov, joined the Red Army in 1918. As a lieutenant general in the Great Patriotic War, he served in important positions on the General Staff and participated in preparing and conducting a number of major combat operations. His son, Yuriy, commanded a platoon and company at the front and after the war held a number of command and staff positions consecutively, completed the Military Academy of Armored Troops and the Military Academy of the General Staff, and now is chief of tank troops of the Soviet Army. A representative of this family's third generation, Capt A. Yu. Potapov, also serves in the Armed Forces.

Beginning our discussion with Yuriy Mikhaylovich, we acquainted him with the photographs published here and requested him to comment on them.

[Answer] Let's begin with this one, he suggested. The tank on the pedestal. There are around 250 of them--armored combat vehicles of Great Patriotic War times elevated onto granite or reinforced concrete bases. They now serve as an expression of the people's gratitude to the tankmen and tank builders for their contribution to our victory over Hitler fascism, for the courage and valor of the fighting men and for the selfless labor of the workers, engineers and technicians. And further... these old "34's" remind us of the remarkable achievements of our military-theoretical and design thinking. I would like to talk about this in somewhat more detail.

Here is what I think about when I look at the old "34" raised on a pedestal. Of course, I also recall my frontline comrades and the commanders under whom we young officers trained. Those in the Army thoroughly study the combat experience of war veterans, particularly the experience of leading large masses of tanks which took shape under the direction of such prominent military tank leaders as M. Ye. Katukov, D. D. Lelyushenko, P. S. Rybalko, P. A. Rotmistrov and others. I would also like to mention the name of Chief Mar Armd Trps A. Kh. Babadzhanyan, my predecessor in the post



of chief of tank troops. His combat career probably is well known to readers of NEDELYA, for he has appeared in its pages more than once.

[Question] Quite true. He participated in the work of one of the editor's public councils and our correspondents have had many meetings with him in this office.

[Answer] I knew Amazasp Khachaturovich well and greatly respected him. He fought heroically in the war years and did much to improve the tank troops in peacetime. And so let us also turn now to today. It is depicted in the photos by the contemporary combat vehicles and pictures of people who control these vehicles.

The great changes in military affairs which occurred in the last decades have not degraded the role of tanks, but have even elevated it. With its sturdy armor and closed, airtight hull--and that is how it is made now--and with its high speed and maneuverability, the tank has proven to be very stable against any modern weapons. All the best qualities of the grand "T-34" have been preserved and developed in our tanks of today. Of course, much that is new also has appeared. It is noticeable at first glance that the tank's outlines have changed. It has become more squat and rounded, i.e., it has been given a shape which makes it less vulnerable under the fire of contemporary antitank weapons. Its armor has become stronger and its weapons more powerful. The tankmen have received an opportunity to see the terrain and conduct aimed fire at night. Weapon stabilization using a gyroscopic device was a very important improvement. Now the main tank gun retains a given position with a tank's oscillations on uneven soil. In combination with a new fire control system, this makes it possible for tankmen to hit targets accurately on the move. Among the new combat qualities of the tank, we should take note of its capability to cross rather deep water obstacles under its own power. In such instances it proceeds along the bottom, with only part of the air intake pipe providing for engine operation remaining above water.

[Question] Yuriy Mikhaylovich, there is much said and written now about the battle between the tank and helicopter. What can you say on this account?

[Answer] Combat helicopters have become formidable weapons. They are especially formidable when they go into an attack simultaneously with tanks. But still, just how do things stand with their opposing each other? If we look at it in a diagram of one tank against one helicopter, then there are certain advantages on the side of the helicopter. But tanks do not operate alone. They enter a battle as subunits or units in coordination with aviation, with air defense weapons and with motorized riflemen, who also have means of combating the air enemy. Since this is so, the immutable principle of Soviet military art comes into the picture. It does not recognize the exclusive role or absolute supremacy of any kind of weapon, but sees a decisive source of victory in the skillfully organized interaction of all kinds of weapons, all combat arms and all branches of the Armed Forces.

[Question] Yuriy Mikhaylovich, our pictures show tankmen who are otlichniki of combat and political training. Tell me, please, what is most characteristic of their training today?

[Answer] Probably the fact that it is conducted very intensively. Why? Because each tank crew includes privates and NCO's who, as we know, serve two years. During this time they must master the sophisticated combat vehicle, outfitted with various sophisticated equipment, to perfection. For this they need great knowledge, high technical culture, discipline and physical endurance. It is necessary to work very strenuously to acquire such qualities in a short period of time! Our commanders, political entities, and party and Komsomol organizations are constantly concerned to see that every hour of training time is used with maximum effectiveness and produces the greatest benefit. The contemporary training facility serves as a good support in the tankmen's training. It includes various trainers, operating models and much more. But the primary form of training continues to be classes in the field, on a combat vehicle operating under near-real conditions. It is there that the tankmen's expertise is polished. And the recent Exercise "Neman" in particular attests to the fact that it is at a high level.

#### Combat Experience of Tankmen

Moscow AGITATOR ARMI I FLOTA in Russian No 16, Aug 79 pp 6-11

[Article by Col Gen Yu. Potapov, chief of tank troops: "Tank Troops of the Homeland"]

[Excerpts] The Soviet people are living and working under conditions of peace for the fourth decade. During this time our state's economic potential has increased immeasurably. In accomplishing the tasks of developing the national economy, the Communist Party and Soviet government are devoting unremitting attention to strengthening the country's defenses and increasing the combat might of the Army and Navy as well.

This obligates all Soviet citizens and personnel of the Armed Forces to display constant vigilance and readiness to offer a rebuff to any intrigues of aggressive reactionary circles of imperialism and its accomplices.

With their great shock force, powerful fire and high maneuverability, the tank troops have increased the combat capabilities of the Ground Forces noticeably. The role and importance of tanks and tank troops on the whole not only has not been lost today with the rapid development of new military equipment and weapons but, to the contrary, is growing even more. And if we consider that motorized rifle and other combined units and units now are outfitted with various armored vehicles which give them maneuverability and mobility, we can picture for ourselves how high the combat capabilities of the Ground Forces are now.

The might of Soviet tank troops lies not only in the first-rate equipment and weapons. Above all, it lies in the remarkable cadres of tankmen, brought up by the Communist Party in a spirit of utter dedication to the Motherland and ideals of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism, and who have mastered contemporary military science and military expertise. Today's tankmen are worthy heirs of the combat glory of senior comrades in arms. The combat experience and grand traditions of the tank troops are a powerful force in training young soldiers and in instilling high moral-combat qualities in them.

In this training year the tankmen are persistently improving their knowledge and skills, successfully mastering new equipment and weapons, and augmenting the ranks of masters of fire and combat vehicle driving, rated specialists, and training otlichniki. Political entities and the party and Komsomol organizations play a large part here. Guided by the CPSU Central Committee Decree "On Further Improvement of Ideological and Political Indoctrination Work," they are aiming their efforts at increasing the personal responsibility of military personnel, and party and Komsomol members above all, for high quality in performing training missions and for effective use of equipment. They are instilling in the tankmen a feeling of collectivism, a feeling of firm soldier cohesiveness and mutual help, courage, decisiveness, valor, resourcefulness and initiative. Party members call on the soldiers to progress constantly along the path of improving their combat expertise.

During his trip through parts of Siberia and the Far East, Comrade L. I. Brezhnev visited the Transbaikalian tankmen. He himself served in the Transbaikalia in the thirties as a tank commander, then as politruk of a tank subunit. Leonid Il'ich gave high praise to the tankmen's combat training. His statements and recommendations expressed during meetings with the personnel, as well as those contained in the remarkable books "Malya Zemlya," "Vozrozhdeniye" [The Rebirth] and "Tselina" [The Virgin Lands], mobilize Army and Navy personnel for a further increase in vigilance and combat readiness and for a steady improvement in the training and indoctrination process.

Soviet tankmen and tank builders are celebrating their holiday with high achievements in military labor. They are stepping up the tempos of combat and political training and conducting a struggle for fulfilling pledges in socialist competition. And this signifies a further increase in combat readiness, outstanding performance of operational training missions and norms, and effective use and exemplary upkeep of equipment and weapons.

The Proskurov-Berlin Order of Lenin, Red Banner, Order of Kutuzov Guards Tank Regiment imeni G. I. Kotovskiy, the Ural-L'vov Red Banner, Orders of Suvorov and Kutuzov Volunteer Guards Tank Division imeni Mar SU R. Ya. Malinovskiy and others are right-flankers in socialist competition. Many units and subunits have achieved significant success in the struggle for accident-free operation of equipment, for extending its service life, for

saving fuel, increasing march speeds, and for complete interchangeability of crew members.

Troop exercises of recent times, particularly the recent Exercise "Neman," have been a serious test of the schooling of Soviet soldiers. They have been held under near-real combat conditions. Like personnel of other combat specialties, the tankmen have displayed high efficiency and discipline in coordinating with all combat arms and have demonstrated a heightened field schooling and the capability of acting boldly and decisively under the most difficult conditions of contemporary warfare.

The tank builders also are celebrating the holiday with grand deeds. They are steadfastly improving our formidable combat weapons and providing the Army with first-rate equipment.

The powerful weapon of the tank troops is in reliable hands. Their high schooling and constant combat readiness are a firm guarantee of the inviolability of the borders of our Motherland and countries of the socialist community. There is no doubt that Soviet tankmen will honorably fulfill their duty to the people, to the great Motherland and to the Communist Party.

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#### Contemporary Tank, Tank Troops

Moscow AGITATOR in Russian No 16, Aug 79 pp 37-39

[Article by Col Gen Yu. Potapov, chief of tank troops: "Chief Shock Force of the Ground Forces"]

[Excerpts] Tanks occupy a special place among the many kinds of modern weapons. They are protected better than other combat equipment against many destructive factors. They have powerful weapons, long range and great speed. Tank units and combined units are capable of accomplishing operational-tactical missions independently.

Qualitative changes occurred in postwar years in the weapons of the Soviet Army and Navy on the basis of a powerful upsurge in the economy and successes in science and technology. Thanks to the steadfast concern of the party and government, our Armed Forces received the most sophisticated weapons, including tanks. Their development took place with consideration of the very abundant experience of the Great Patriotic War.

The appearance of nuclear weapons introduced fundamental changes to views on the nature of combat operations, on the role and importance of combat arms and kinds of weapons, and on the capabilities of combat equipment in war. And under the new conditions the tank proved to be on top of the situation: It is capable of protecting a crew against the shock wave, light radiation and penetrating radiation of a nuclear burst. All the tank's



basic combat qualities were developed: firepower, armored protection and mobility. The 85-mm guns on medium tanks gave way to 100-mm and 115-mm guns.

The use of smoothbore guns permitted an increase in the initial velocity of the projectile, which means an increase in its armor-penetrating capability. Stabilization of the tank weapon ensured a sharp increase in accuracy of fire and precluded the need for making a halt to fire. Now a tank can conduct aimed fire from the move practically without reducing speed.

The armor protection of tanks was increased. An increase in power of tank engines, improvement of the undercarriage, and installation of more sophisticated power transmissions and control mechanisms permitted an increase in speed and maneuverability, assurance of smooth running and at the same time a decrease in the physical load on crew members.

Tanks have acquired new qualities in our days. Using special equipment, they can successfully negotiate water obstacles of varying depth and width over the bottom. Use of infrared night vision instruments permitted driving the tank and conducting aimed fire from it at night. In case a fire breaks out in the tank, a special firefighting equipment system (PPO) automatically will extinguish it and purify the air of smoke.

The contemporary tank is a sophisticated vehicle developed on the basis of the latest achievements of science and technology. Its mastery requires a crew to have great knowledge and to put in persistent and systematic work and continuous practice sessions. Well trained, technically competent and physically fit replacements arrive in the tank troops each year from schools, from enterprises and from kolkhozes. They include people with a higher, secondary and incomplete secondary education. Augmenting of the Army's ranks with such young people assures mastery of the contemporary, sophisticated combat equipment in short periods of time, which contributes to no small extent to an increase in the combat readiness of the Armed Forces.

In conformity with the CPSU Central Committee Decree "On Further Improvement in Ideological and Political Indoctrination Work," our commanders, political workers, and party and Komsomol organizations now have stepped up the indoctrination of all personnel in a spirit of utter dedication to the party and communist ideals, love for the socialist homeland and proletarian internationalism.

Our personnel attempt to operate as in combat in the tactical exercises, in campaigns and in day-to-day work. Implementing the instructions of the 25th CPSU Congress on strengthening the country's defenses, the tankmen have joined in socialist competition for outstanding mastery of the combat equipment and for preparing rated specialists who are masters of fire and driving. A movement for complete interchangeability in crews has originated in the tank units.



Personnel of the Soviet Army are celebrating the national holiday of Tankmen's Day in an atmosphere of high labor and political enthusiasm. They are standing vigilantly on guard over our Motherland's borders and are reliably safeguarding the labor of the Soviet people--the builders of communism.

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## TANK TACTICS AGAINST ANTITANK MISSILES DESCRIBED

Moscow ZNAMENOSETS in Russian No 5, May 79 signed to press 20 Apr 79 pp 2-3

[Article by Lieutenant Colonel G. Kubitanov: "In the Sights of ATGM's"]

[Text] The tanks were rushing forward behind a moving barrage. The armored vehicles were unleashing a storm of fire on the "enemy." One more effort, it seemed, and the attackers would break through the forward line of defense and carry the combat into its depth. But the closer the tankers approached to the forward line, the more their impetus slackened. Soon Lieutenant L. Lyskin's platoon on the left flank lost a tank. The platoon was compelled to take cover and direct concentrated fire against an "enemy" ATGM [antitank guided missile] position. Gunners Private First Class Ye. Skrypnyak and Private Kh. Zhalgisbayev quickly prepared the initial data for fire against the ATGM position, which was located directly in front of the company (Fig. 1). The shots rang out. But both rounds missed their target. The "enemy" continued to execute flanking fire against the tanks of the adjoining platoon, which was advancing on the left. Another ATGM position located at the right was, it turned out, firing at Lieutenant Lyskin's platoon. They were late in detecting it, and it "knocked out" another tank.

About the same situation faced a platoon which was attacking in the center of the company's battle order. The subunit [podrazdeleniye] commander, Senior Lieutenant V. Kir'yanov, made a decision: two platoons, firing from place, would pin down the enemy from the front, while a third, in which Senior Sergeant A. Makushev was acting as the officer, would outflank the strong point on the right via a marshy area and attack the defenders from the rear. But the maneuver was not successful. In the marshy hollow an ambush was waiting for the platoon: an "enemy" tank destroyer detachment equipped with ATGM's.

The tactical exercise had become a serious test. It had revealed shortcomings.

The officers, sergeants and all personnel of the subunit drew the correct conclusions, and analyzed their operations on the battlefield in detail. It turned out that the proper attention had not been given to reconnoitering antitank weapons. Some of the tankers had only located the large targets on the field

and had forgotten about the smaller ones which were more difficult to find. The problem was that before ATGM's are fired there are no giveaway signs. They are small in size and thus can easily be hidden in small folds in the ground, in undergrowth, behind rocks and the like.

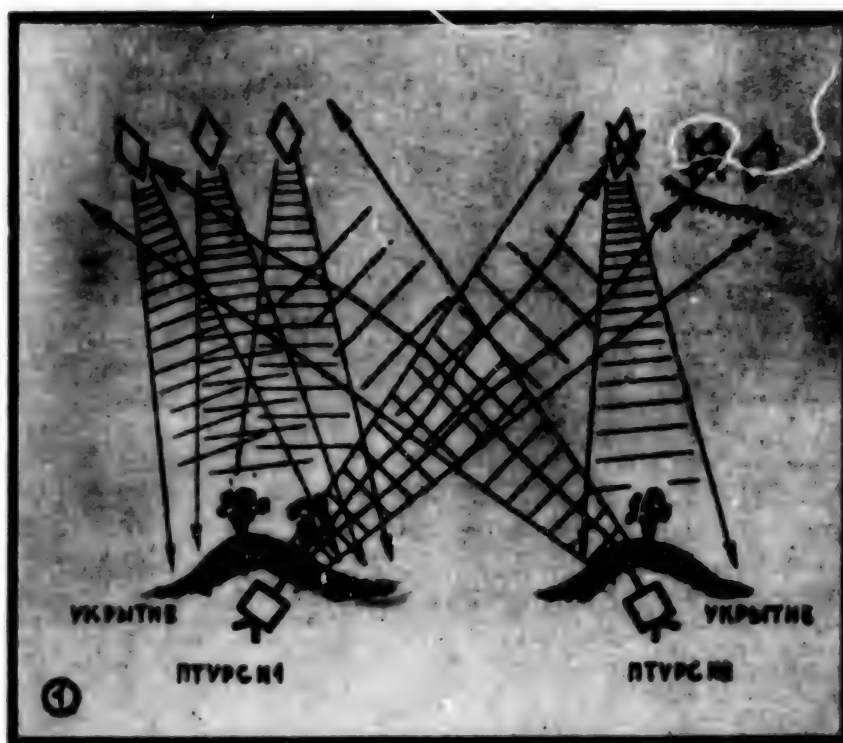


Fig. 1. [Legend: "Cover"; "ATGM No 1"; "ATGM No 2"]

It is well known that when tanks are engaging ATGM's it is extremely important to determine the direction and the arc of fire, since without these there is no prospect of success in battle. In summing up the results, detailed discussion was made of the operations of the crews of Sergeants G. Tolmachev and N. Kalenskii, who had not always succeeded in concentrating their fire against an ATGM position that had been located. Refer to Fig. 1. As can be seen, both positions were executing flanking fire, since straight-ahead fire is not effective for them. They were well covered. And flanking fire from ATGM's increases the

probability of destroying tanks, since it is directed at their sides. It can be seen from the figure how the two tank crews tried unsuccessfully to destroy the well-covered target.

There were other shortcomings in the tankers' training. Specific courses of action were mapped out to eliminate them. The commander placed the main stress on high-quality performance of tank gunnery, battle drill and tactical exercises. The tankers painstakingly studied the performance characteristics of ATGM's, the tactics of helicopters equipped with ATGM's, and the methods of combating them.

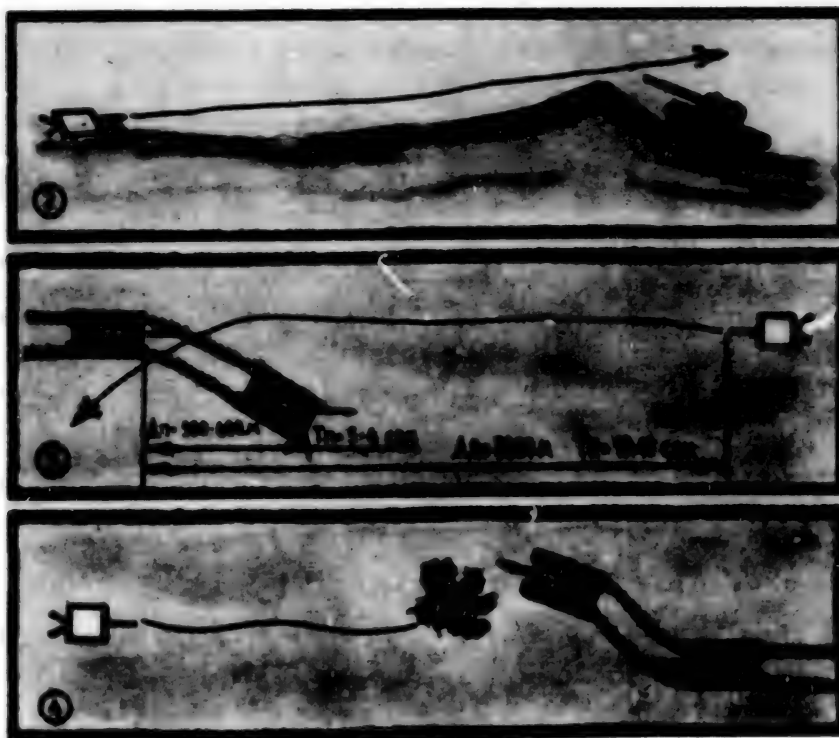
The commanders explained to the trainees that the enemy defense system, which is saturated with antitank weapons, is so constructed as to force attackers to move on open terrain. This is achieved by extensive use of natural obstacles and manmade barriers, which are intended to slow the pace of the enemy advance, to break up his battle order and to force him to operate on terrain which limits maneuver of his personnel and weapons. In addition, the plan is to employ surprise preemptive use of antitank weapons outside the range of enemy fire, which involves destroying the targets on the first shot.

"Early sighting of the ATGM positions," Sergeant Tolmachev instructed his crew, "and quick and accurate firing are the most important prerequisites for success." In all drills and exercises the tank commander strove to have his subordinates achieve a high degree of coordination in their combat work, along with speed and precision in meeting all norms. Like the other sergeants, he taught his driver, Private A. Prokhod, to execute anti-ATGM maneuvers on command or independently. Figs. 2, 3 and 4 show the main types of such maneuvers: taking cover behind the crest of a rise, a sharp turn to the right or left taking account of the flight time of the missile, and the use of all possible obstacles, such as underbrush, clumps of trees, buildings, individual trees and the like.

Nor did the commanders forget the other important subjects involved in combat training of other categories of specialists. Particular attention was devoted to achieving a high degree of harmoniousness, precise coordination, and an ability on the part of the tankers to use the entire power of their armaments in the shortest possible time both by day and by night. This was assisted by extensive socialist competition on tasks and norms in the company.

And now it was time for the podrazdeleniye's scheduled field exercise: a field firing exercise. The tankers had the opportunity to test themselves in a new and more complex attack and to show what they had learned and what combat skill they had acquired.

The company's advance as part of a battalion was made from the march, following a "nuclear strike." From the attack line the tanks moved forward to close with the "enemy" at high speed. Supporting artillery conducted fire over the heads of the attackers. The strong points in the forward area were in a sea of flame. Fires were all around and traces of destruction could be seen everywhere. It seemed that in such a situation the "enemy" would not be in condition to put up a strong resistance.



Figs. 2, 3 and 4.

But this time the tankers were attentive and concentrating fully. They knew well that the defenders, who were waiting for the proper moment in their secure shelters, could be able to meet the avalanche of steel rolling toward them with their full pancply of weapons.

Pressed against the face piece of his sight and straining to see, gunner PFC Skrypnyak saw through the dancing mirage of burning underbrush ahead of him a vehicle-mounted ATGM in a distant fold of hilly terrain.

"35-00, ATGM 2000," Skrypnyak gave the precise target designation.

"Fragmentation round, ATGM 2000. Fire!" ordered Sergeant Tolmachev. The tank commander purposely left out of his order the target bearing 35-00, in order to shorten it as much as possible, since it would take at least a second to pronounce the number. During this time an ATGM can fly about 200 meters, and a tank



round a thousand or more meters. But do not such abbreviated commands lead to gunner errors? Not under these circumstances. It may be asked why, under these conditions, the commander needs to inform the gunner of the direction of fire, if the gunner sees the target and it was in fact he who gave the target designation. The sergeant was acting correctly.

PFC Skrypnyak set his sights in a confident movement, finished the fine laying of his stabilized gun and pushed the key on his control panel. The heavy vehicle shuddered. Through the puff of smoke Sergeant Tolmachev saw clearly that the bright red missile trace passed through the gray outline of the target. A hit on the first round!

The other tank crew's duel with an ATGM went differently. Neither the tank commander, Junior Sergeant N. Ol'khovoy, nor his gunner, Private A. Andreyev, saw in time through the puffs of smoke that an ATGM installation hidden on the slope of a rise had gotten them in its sights. They both saw at the same time a small white cloud, a sign that a charge of powder had launched an ATGM. The gunner quickly trained his gun on the puff of white and fired. The calculation here is simple: it is necessary to exert a psychological effect on the ATGM operator as quickly as possible, since he will be guiding the missile toward the tank for 12-15 seconds. And if a tank round explodes in the target area or near it, the operator's hand on the control panel will involuntarily jump, thus unintentionally giving the ATGM a sudden command which directs it away from its intended course. Herein lies the secret of the rapid answering shot.

As a precaution the driver turned the tank sharply to the right. Meanwhile the stabilized gun maintained its specified firing direction, so that there was no change in the firing conditions for the gunner.

Other crews in the company also executed maneuvers, with precise and skilled coordination not only among themselves but with the motorized riflemen who were advancing behind the infantry combat vehicles. For example, at a critical moment in the combat the BMP carrying Sergeant V. Kozlov's detachment was "knocked out." Sergeant S. Yemel'yanenko immediately picked up the motorized rifle detachment on the rear of his tank and continued the attack. Soon two well-concealed targets appeared ahead: a pair of antitank rocket launcher crews. They were first noticed by the motorized infantry, who concentrated the fire of the entire detachment against them.

The combat moved into the depth of the defense. Borne along by the advance, the tankers did not notice that on a small rise at the flank, almost touching the trees, combat helicopters equipped with ATGM's had suddenly appeared. They were again noticed first by the tank-mounted infantry headed by Sergeant Kozlov, who gave the tankers timely warning.

"To the right, above Bustaya Grove, helicopters, 4000," reported tank commander Sergeant Yemel'yanenko to his senior commander by radio.

There immediately followed a command for the company to open concentrated fire against the aerial targets from place. The crews, who had previously acquired

firm experience during training sessions in firing guns and machineguns at aerial targets, showed good firing skill. Several "enemy" helicopters were destroyed and the others turned back.

After an unsuccessful tank counterattack to stop the attackers at an intermediate line, the "enemy" began to withdraw. The subunit's crews immediately took advantage of this to go over to decisive pursuit.

The senior commander present at the tactical exercise gave a high rating to the operations of the tankers and stressed especially that the basis of their success was their excellent ability to combine fire and maneuver, to combat ATGM's effectively, and to destroy targets on the first shot and in a short time.

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## CHEMICAL RECONNAISSANCE UNIT TRAINING DESCRIBED

Moscow ZNAMENOSETS in Russian No 5, May 79 signed to press 20 Apr 79 pp 4-5

[Article by Sergeant N. Budnik: "Chemical Reconnaissnace Troops on the March"

[Text] Before the beginning of tactical exercises, the radiation and chemical reconnaissance detachment undertook the socialist commitment of operating with initiative and harmoniously and fulfilling all combat tasks and norms with a rating of "outstanding."

Now the exercise had begun. The detachment had been ordered to proceed from Dorozhnyy Farmstead to Sosnovka Village with the assignment of conducting radiation and chemical reconnaissance of the area, in which our subunits were to be operating. The command to prepare the vehicle for reconnaissance was received from platoon commander Senior Lieutenant I. Kharitonov.

The driver, private V. Storozhuk, quickly opened up his sets of contamination markers and put the pyrotechnic cartridges in their firing mechanisms. Private V. Yaroshchuk began to prepare the gas detector: he prepared the solutions, poured them into the dispensing containers, adjusted the instrument with a light filter, put in the indicator tape and, when the sound and light signals were received, opened the cover of the instrument. Next he began to unpack the contamination meter-Roentgen meter: he put the power supply into the instrument and connected the earphone. At the same time, I tuned the radio set to the specified frequency and fed the necessary data into the navigation apparatus. All preparatory operations were performed in shorter-than-usual time, in accordance with the socialist commitments undertaken for the training period.

"Don protective outfits! Gas!" I commanded the detachment.

The men put on the protective outfits, beating the standard time, and took their positions.

"Start up! Advance!"

The vehicle proceeded in the designated direction at high speed.

When we had received the assignment to monitor the designated region, I had broken down our route in advance into sections several kilometers long and ordered the driver to note the distance traveled and report it to me.

Soon the following situation was declared:

"The dosimeter shows a 'radiation' level of 0.5 Roentgens per hour."

Instantly I gave the command:

"Driver, turn right. Stop! Private Yaroshchuk, prepare the contamination marker on the right side."

After he reported that he was ready I pushed a button. Immediately the pyrotechnic cartridge fired and a yellow pennant indicating the level of "radiation" was driven into the ground (Fig. 1). From local features I accurately determined the location of the BRDM and made a note on the map indicating the time at which the "contamination" was detected and the "radiation" level.

Performing our task, we hurried along our route. Then came the declaration: "poisonous substances" had been detected. The CW personnel again acted swiftly and efficiently, and completely carried out the specified quantity of work.

In one of the sectors of our route, the radiometer-Roentgen meter detected the highest "radiation" level. Without stopping we posted the requisite notice. The driver drove the vehicle to the right of the road, through a field. By performing this maneuver we bypassed the "contaminated" zone and returned to our previous course. We again measured the "radiation" level and marked the rearward limit of the "radioactive contamination" sector.

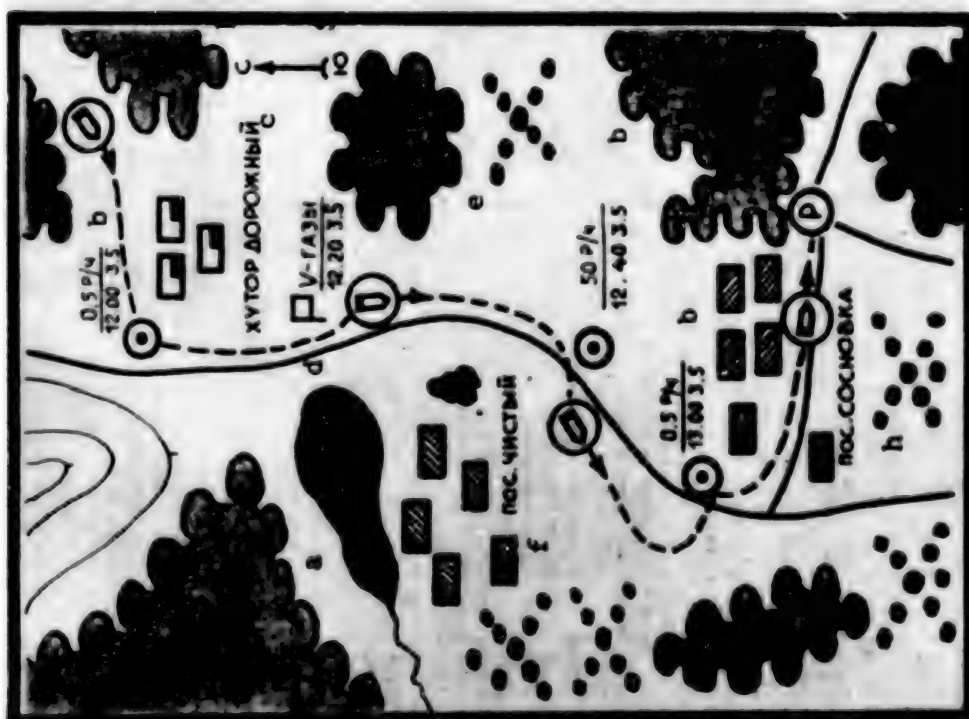
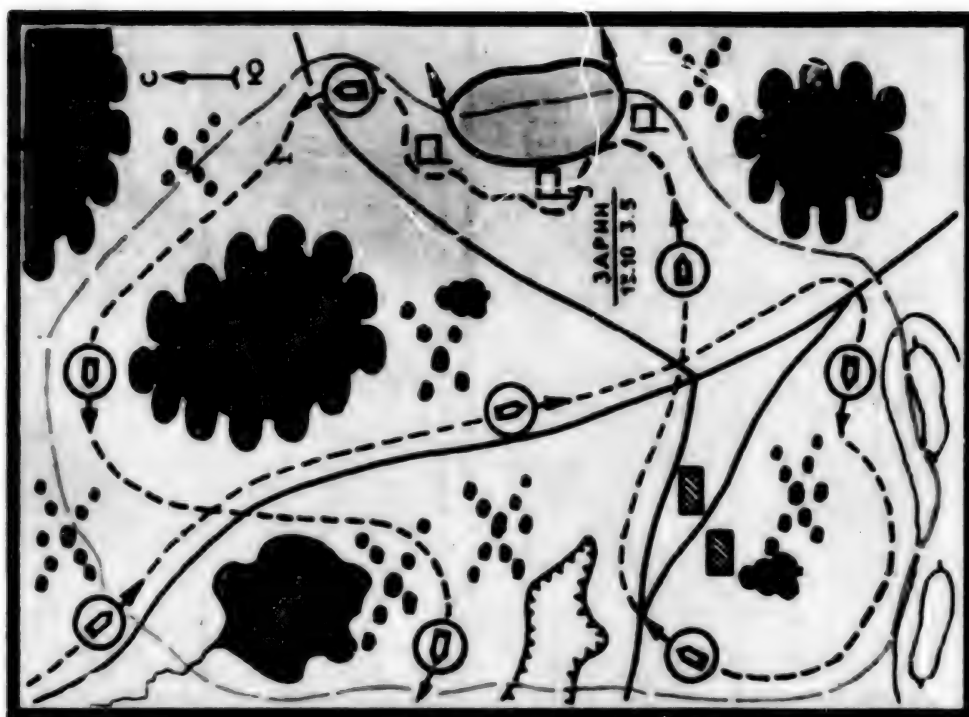
We reached the designated area at exactly the specified time. The most responsible stage of its combat work had arrived for the subunit. Even while we were investigating along the route I had made marks on the map showing where and how best to reconnoiter the specified area. Accordingly I immediately ordered the driver to cross through the center of the area and then to turn and move along its perimeter (Fig. 2). In this way we investigated the entire area. During the process the instruments were turned on and were operating uninterruptedly. Each man operated with a high sense of responsibility, understanding well that the subunit's success depended on the quality of our reconnaissance. We investigated water reservoirs which might be used for food preparation by subunit personnel with particular care.

Unexpectedly, almost at the easternmost edge of the area the yellow lamp of the gas detector lit: the "enemy" had used a "toxic substance" in that area. In our training sessions I had already taught my subordinates to determine the presence of toxic substances in a locality from the vehicle. This proved useful in the exercise. Private Yaroshchuk skillfully extended the ends of his tubes from the APC and took the necessary measurements. We determined the wind direction from a pennant placed on the forward section of the BRDM. This enabled us

Key to Figs. 1 and 2.

- a. Severnyy woods
- b. [Numerator gives roentgens/hour; denominator gives time and date  
(3 May)]
- c. Dorozhnyy farmstead
- d. Gas [denominator to be read as above]
- e. Malaya grove
- f. Chisty village
- g. Sosnovyy woods
- h. Sosnovka village
- i. Svetlaya grove
- j. ZARIN [denominator to be read as above]





Figures 1 and 2.

to save time in inspecting the terrain, and in addition we were able to observe all precautionary measures: the "toxic substance" did not reach the detachment.

Once we had determined the size of the "contaminated" area we set up the standard contamination markers.

I entered the results of the chemical reconnaissance on the map. And when the detachment had completely carried out its assigned task, I reported this to the platoon commander by radio.

At the assembly point we proceeded to decontaminate our equipment and individual protective outfits at his command. Here I required precise and high-quality performance of special treatment by my subordinates. All operations were timed and compared with the time norm. Private Yaroshchuk was the victor in this stage of the competition.

During the training period the detachment accomplished complex tasks and carried them all out with distinction, showing their high level of field training and skill.

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## AVIATION SUPPORT UNIT DECONTAMINATION TRAINING DESCRIBED

Moscow ZNAMENOSETS in Russian No 5, May 79 signed to press 20 Apr 79 p 7

[Article by Warrant Officer N. Artemov, Master of Combat Skill, Group Soviet Forces Germany: "Ready for Another Takeoff"]

[Text] To one side of the runway, an immense column of flame and smoke shot up into the air, and the dull echo of a "nuclear explosion" rumbled over the field. The personnel of specially prepared squads immediately began to eliminate its effects, while teams specially organized for such an occurrence were assigned the task of assuring that flying would be possible. Soon followed a message from the leader that a flight of aircraft that had passed through a "radioactive cloud" and been "contaminated" had landed. Thus began the special tactical exercise.

At the order of the senior flight engineer, crews wearing all-arms protective outfits (OZK) and gas masks took their starting positions under the leadership of the flight's technician, Senior Lieutenant V. Boyko, and prepared for work. We were charged not only with decontamination of the aircraft but also with preparing them for a new takeoff. The complexity of the tasks and the limited amount of time available required maximum coolheadedness, rapidity and harmoniousness of action.

According to a plan worked out in advance, the aircraft rolled one after another to the inspection and decontamination point, where they were inspected for mechanical damage and then, after receiving the OK, passed through a designated corridor for preliminary treatment with heat engines located on both sides of the taxiway. After a moment in the stream, the next aircraft passed through the radiation checkpoint and then to the special treatment area, where the pilot was able to leave the plane.

The senior officer in charge of the crews brought the aircraft to this area, and after indicating the parking location to the tank truck-sprayer unit (ARS) he gave the command to begin treating the aviation equipment. I was the head of a crew whose number two man was aviation equipment group mechanic Warrant Officer K. Sachenok and whose number three man was aircraft and engine mechanic Private N. Chindyasov. Not far away worked our rivals in socialist competition,

Senior Lieutenant V. Dubin's crew, while down the line were crews commanded by Lieutenants B. Mesha and V. Goloshevskiy.

Our figures were still the best on the stand which shows the results of work by the crews at each stage. We had received the highest mark for presence at the signal to fall in, for equipment and actions on the command "Gas" and for time required to don the all-arms gas outfits. My subordinates had also prepared themselves well for subsequent work. We had supplied ourselves in advance with rags, had assembled our special plug kits which prevent the solution and extraneous objects from entering the air intake during treatment, and when we received the command we went into action without delay.

Entering the area from the upwind side, i.e. from the nose of the aircraft, I placed caps over the auxiliary air intake flaps, covers over the air pressure sensor and a plug in the air intake. Private Shindyasov chocked the wheels and put a plug in the surface layer blow-off of the alcohol tanks, while Warrant Officer Sachenok set up the steps and began treating the cockpit canopy glass and opening handles, then quickly treated the steps, thus giving me timely support in helping the pilot descend without risk of exposure to "contamination."

I opened the cockpit, gave the pilot a gas mask and gloves, trying not to come in contact with him, then closed the cockpit again; as soon as he signaled that he was ready, I pulled back the canopy, and there on the steps, holding out the overboots, I helped the pilot, who had climbed quickly out of the cockpit, to put them on. Next I turned the pilot over to the radiological monitor and returned to the aircraft, where the other crew members were busy treating it.

At first there was a problem: something wrong with the pressure in the tank-truck-sprayer unit. It turned out that the valves on the brush handles had blown off and the brushes were swinging about on the ends of their hoses; they had to be replaced. But naturally I should credit the chemical service specialists' errors to their account too. We could not rely fully on our associated workers, so I had to check the readiness of the sprayer unit and its equipment myself ahead of time. As we strove to accomplish our assigned task as rapidly and well as possible, I kept a strict watch to see that all operations were carried out in strict accordance with instructions. The fear of making a mistake seemed to transfix the men. Several times I had to remind Private Chindyasov to work fast. But when he hurried he made a mistake: in order to cover a large area, he began to make a lengthwise motion with his decontamination-solution brush, while the instructions require that the aircraft surface should be cleaned strictly from top to bottom. Then, not noticing that the cockpit was still open, he managed to splash solution into it. He had to do some of his work over, and this took additional time.

But then he settled down and found the right rhythm, beginning to work more prudently. Going along the right side of the fuselage from nose to wing, he cleaned a place on the wing surface, got up on it and continued his work without a hitch. Warrant Officer Sachenok operated errorlessly in the complex situation. He carefully washed down the left side, and when he and Chindyasov rejoined me, the three of us took the prescribed route from the nose to the tail of the aircraft, rubbing dry with rags first the upper part of the airframe, then the lower part and the landing gear. We used the same materials to cleanse the area, and then I reported to the officer in charge of the crews that treatment of the aircraft had been completed.

But we could not make up the lost time. And at this stage we surrendered our lead in the competition to Senior Lieutenant V. Dubin's crew, which included Warrant Officer F. Balan and Private A. Alekseyenko. They had done their assignment quicker than we had, with work that was not inferior to our in quality. Afterwards we made a detailed analysis of our activities and tried to discover the causes of our errors in order not to commit them in the future. Our rivals had achieved their advantage by a higher degree of organization and by better preparation of their treatment equipment. Another factor was good physical condition. The officer himself is an excellent track and field athlete and fond of football. His crew members are a good match for him. Their experience with prolonged physical exertion helped them, and they managed to do a splendid job.

As the aircraft were taken off to the parking area, all of us went on command to a prepared area where we took off our capes, overboots, gas masks and gloves. When we undressed, our coveralls were wringing wet.

But everything done up to this point was only the approach to the main work. The next task, which was no less responsible, entailed preparing the aircraft for another takeoff, which also required a reserve of strength. We performed our assignments. The aircraft were prepared for takeoff exactly on time and with high quality.

The exercise was a good lesson for each of us. It showed the high training level of the personnel, the harmonious operation of all specialists, and their ability to work actively under the complex conditions of enemy use of weapons of mass destruction.

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## INFANTRY COMBAT VEHICLE FIRING TRAINING AID DESCRIBED

Moscow ZNAMENOSETS in Russian No 5, May 79 signed to press 20 Apr 79 pp 8-9

[Article by Colonel G. Shinkarev: "Using the Pinhole Pantograph"]

[Text] Accuracy of fire from all types of weapons on the BMP is achieved by effectively conducted firing exercises with the personnel. Particularly high-quality results in firing training are achieved by the subunits which use pinhole pantographs in them. This device makes it possible to train gunners to use laying mechanisms effectively and to accomplish firing tasks involving firing the gun and the coaxial machinegun against stationary and moving targets from place, from a brief halt and on the move. The equipment includes (Fig. 1): upper and lower pinhole pantographs with screens, two scale rulers to measure firing accuracy, cables connecting the unit to the onboard electrical system of the BMP, and cables connecting it to the electric gun and machinegun triggers.

The device may be operated from the BMP's batteries or from the commercial electric system by using a rectifier with a 26V DC output. The maximum power consumption is 136 watts.

How is the pantograph prepared for operation?

The upper pantograph is fastened to the right front (facing forward) side of the gun barrel by means of a bracket. Next the gun is moved to the horizontal position in line with the longitudinal axis of the BMP. The upper screen is so placed on the vehicle that the indicator is pointed at its center. The lower pantograph is fastened to its stand and its screen attached to one of its towing hooks.

The entire unit is connected to the electrical triggers of the weapons and to the BMP's power supply. A cross strip and screws are used to attach sheets of fresh 408 x 340 mm paper to the screens. Next the operation of the indicator is checked by setting the switch in the "Battery" or "Rectifier" position depending on the type of power source (in the middle position the pantograph is disconnected), and the electrical trigger is pressed 10-15 times in

succession. At every pressure on the button, the indicator should move forward about 45-55 mm. In this case the device is ready for operation.

For training in operation of the laying mechanism, only the upper pantograph is used. An end piece containing an insert holding a pencil 5-7 mm long is screwed on to the forward part of the pantograph. Before beginning work, the pencil must be firmly placed against the screen. Then a board holding a target is set up in line with the screen at a distance of 5-10 mm from the muzzle of the gun. The middle of the screen and the board should be opposite the aiming mark (see photo [not reproduced]). The targets (Fig. 2) are used as follows: No 1 for teaching firing from place; No 2 for teaching firing from a brief halt; No 3 for teaching firing on the move.

On the eve of an exercise, drill leader Sergeant A. Naumov made his preparations. He directed the gun toward the target, pointing the selected aiming mark at the lines on it in the sequence that was numerically designated. At the same time, a figure which was to serve as the check figure for the trainees was drawn on the screen. Naumov darkened it with ink in order to use it for additional training sessions (after analysis of the trainee's actions the penciled figure is erased and the screen is ready for operation again).

Next the sergeant prepared several other copies of the check figures. For this purpose he marked the position of the sheet bearing the check figure in relation to the screen and drew a line along the fastening strip. He removed the sheet from the screen and laid it atop several sheets of blank paper. He used pinholes to mark put the outline of the figure and a ruler and French curve to draw it in on each sheet, then drew the line showing its position on the screen. With his preparation for the drill complete, the sergeant began it.

On his command "Commence laying by figure 1" the trainee began to lay the gun continuously along the lines in the figure on the target in accordance with the numbers shown on it. Initially the time required to trace the figure was not limited by the exercise leader. Ultimately he evaluated operation of the laying mechanisms in terms of time spent and number of mistakes.

If the line traced by the trainee deviated from the test figure by more than 3 mm, it was considered an error. When the laying mechanism was operated manually he gave the rating "excellent" if the trainee took about three minutes to trace figure number 1 and made no more than two errors; "good" was given for 2:30 and three errors; and "satisfactory" was given for a maximum of three minutes and five errors.

The pantograph and screen also make it possible to give training in consistency of aiming and in aiming off. When working on this subject Sergeant Naumov indicates the target and makes a mark on the screen, then informs the trainee of the target and aiming point and assigns the task of taking three "shots" at it, with the laying mechanism moved away each time. He determines the consistency of laying and the correctness of off-aiming for the figures in question by the distribution of the pinholes on the screen.

The device may also be used for monitoring the correctness of performance of firing tasks during firing at stationary and moving targets. In teaching firing from place, only the upper pantograph and screen are used, while in firing with a brief halt and on the move the upper and lower units are used together. Here the upper instrument, attached to the weapon, indicates the barrel position on the screen, while the lower indicates the position of the BMP on the rocking frame at the moment of "firing." Just before such an exercise the sergeant makes special preparations: he aims the weapon at the target with the necessary sight setting, lateral correction and point of aim. For example: against a tank at a distance of 800 meters with a strong side wind from the left, sight setting 8, first lateral correction on the left side of the graticule, at the center of the target. When the electric trigger is pushed, the weapon fires an imaginary round: the indicator makes a mark on the screen. The label Ts1 is made beside the pinhole. This hole is the control hole and indicates correct performance of the firing task against the target in question. Sergeant Naumov follows the same procedure with the correct initial firing data to aim the BMP's gun at the other targets and makes the corresponding notations by the pinholes: Ts2, Ts3 and so on. Then the leader draws coordinate axes through them and when necessary draws in the shapes of the targets, decreased in size in proportion to the distance to the upper screen.

When the gun is aimed at the various targets during preparation of the instrument for operation, the lower indicator makes pinholes on the screen which are all in the same place. This is the control point and records the position of the immobile BMP at the moment of firing. Coordinate axes are also drawn through it.

To begin the drill, the sergeant indicates the targets in the prescribed sequence. The trainees, looking at the sector in question, find them and open "fire." The upper screen should show one pinhole near each of the test points. When firing during a brief halt or on the move is being practiced, an assistant to the leader is at the main screen. After each imaginary shot he labels the pinholes Ts1, Ts2 and so on.

If the firing has been from a short halt or on the move, the leader uses a special ruler (Fig. 3) to measure the deviation of the pinhole from the control point on the lower screen, then uses another ruler to transfer the results to the upper screen in the proper scale. Thus he takes account of the position of the BMP as it swings on the frame at the moment of "firing." The resulting label "P" on the screen means that the firing task was performed correctly. In the example shown in the figure, the trainee made a mistake: 0.75 mils to the left and 0.5 mils high.

After determining the accuracy with which the trainee has performed his firing task, Sergeant Naumov analyzes the results of the drill directly on the upper screen.

The new device is an effective training aid for teaching accurate firing of the BMP's gun and coaxial machinegun. Sergeants and warrant officers should be able to ready it for operation and to make optimum use of it in firing exercises.

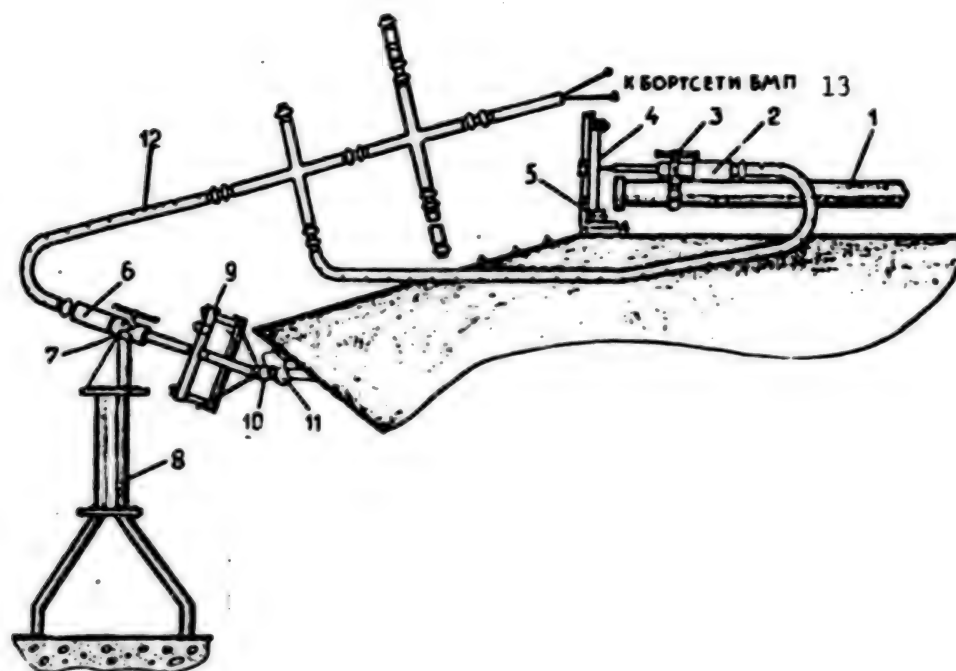


Fig. 1.

- Key:
- 1. Gun barrel
  - 2. Upper pinhole pantograph
  - 3. Bracket for upper pantograph
  - 4. Screen of upper pantograph
  - 5. Bracket of upper screen
  - 6. Lower pantograph
  - 7. Bracket of lower pantograph
  - 8. Support for lower pantograph
  - 9. Screen of lower pantograph
  - 10. Bracket of lower screen
  - 11. Towing hook
  - 12. Cable
  - 13. To BMP electrical system

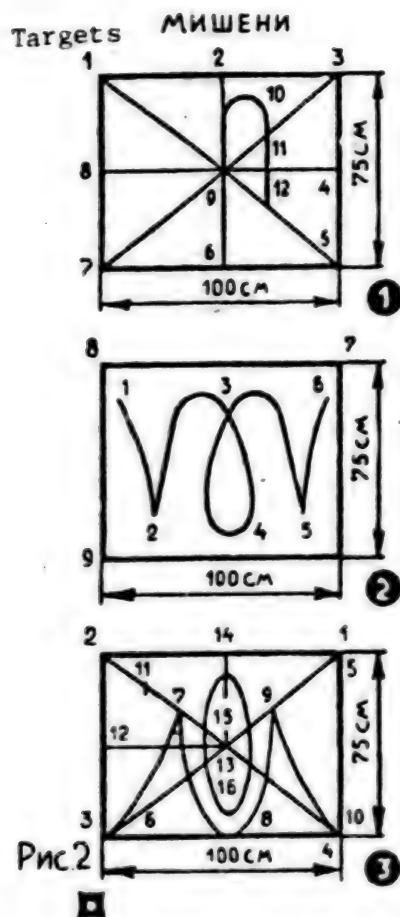


Fig. 2.



Fig. 3.

- Key:
1. Measurement of deviation on lower screen
  2. Pinhole made by trainee
  3. Scale ruler
  4. Control point
  5. Transferring point deviation from lower screen to upper
  6. Pinhole made by trainee
  7. Transferred point
  8. Control point
  9. Determining accuracy of gun aiming
  10. Pinhole made by trainee
  11. Transferred point (P)
  12. Control point

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## NATO HELIBORNE ASSAULT LANDING TACTICS DISCUSSED

Moscow ZNAMENOSETS in Russian No 5, May 79 signed to press 20 Apr 79 pp 28-29

[Article by Colonel Z. Moseyev: "The Heliborne Assault Unit"]

[Text] Recently the command of the United States Army has been devoting considerable attention to the use of motorized infantry (or infantry) subunits as airborne tactical assault elements. A considerable impetus for this has been the experience of combat use of heliborne assault units during the dirty war waged by the Americans in Vietnam. This experience has been carefully studied by military specialists, with the result that it is considered necessary to continue improving the organization and employment of subunits as heliborne tactical assault elements of various composition and with various missions. During 1975-1978 air assault elements consisting of reinforced small subunits with various missions have come into extensive use.

Exercises indicate that under certain conditions a reinforced motorized infantry (or infantry) platoon or marine platoon is capable of functioning as a tactical airborne assault element. In special cases a platoon which makes an assault as part of a company operates independently of and separate from the main forces of the company after it is landed. NATO leadership organs stress that this requires a high training level on the part of all personnel in the subunit. On the basis of combat experience in Korea and Vietnam, specialists point out that the reinforced platoon can be used as an assault element at considerable depth under various terrain conditions, given the requisite support from helicopters and with fire support from army aviation, tactical aviation (marine aviation) and field artillery.

When functioning as an airborne assault unit, the platoon may be reinforced with sappers (up to a section), one or two TOW ATGM's, one or two 81-mm mortar crews, a REDEYE antiaircraft missile crew and a flamethrower.

The leadership organs also stress the effectiveness of a platoon's operation as a tactical airborne assault element may be decreased by bad weather conditions: mist, rain, snow, high winds. In some cases these may make an

airborne assault impossible. But with proper support and sufficient visibility these factors can be used to enhance secrecy of the assault action.

NATO specialists indicate that assault units are likely to encounter the greatest difficulties in areas of medium-sized and high mountains and in polar conditions. In all cases the leaders require careful planning and comprehensive support of the operations of heliborne assault units.

As a rule the operations of a tactical airborne assault element consisting of a (reinforced) platoon or company are organized in support of a brigade or battalion and its operations are planned in coordination with the brigade or battalion staff. Planning of operations by such an assault unit envisions performance of a combat mission in three stages. The first stage includes preparation and concentration of the assault element in the take-off area. The second stage is the landing of the subunit. The third is the carrying on of combat operations in the landing area and rendezvous with subunits advancing from the front or an aerial withdrawal after accomplishment of the task. The nature of assault operations is shown stage by stage in the diagram [not reproduced].

Both the reinforced company and the reinforced platoon are landed in a single echelon with support from combat helicopters and tactical aviation aircraft and from field artillery.

Particular attention in planning is devoted to selection of the location and time of landing of the unit and careful formulation of its combat tasks and of coordination within the subunit. A major role in planning is accorded to measures in support of the assault element's combat operations. A location is assigned to each helicopter in the areas for takeoff and landing of the assault unit.

Depending on the type of helicopter, its capacity and the composition of the reinforced platoon, four or five helicopters are allocated to it. The operations platoon may be supported by two to four fire support helicopters and one or two reconnaissance helicopters.

The flight path of the assault force is chosen along streams and depressions, railroads and highways and across rough terrain and areas weakly covered by air defense weapons. Planning of the unit's operations specifies the procedure for suppression of enemy antiaircraft weapons and radar detection facilities. The distance between helicopters in flight is about 200 meters.

Additional (checking) reconnaissance is conducted 4-6 hours before the assault by helicopters and tactical aviation to gain a more precise knowledge of enemy installations and targets in the assault area. Ground reconnaissance forces and equipment operating in the enemy rear may be employed. But it is not recommended that helicopters and aircraft make reconnaissance flights directly over the landing area.

Fire support helicopters are assigned to accompany the assault unit from the takeoff area to the landing area (or zone); these conduct fire against installations and targets in support of the assault force's operations. They have become an essential element in the battle order of the heliborne tactical assault unit. Immediately before the landing, fire preparation may be conducted by helicopters of the following types: VH-1B, VH-1 IROQUOIS (used extensively in Vietnam), AH-1G, AH-1G HUEY COBRA, AH-1, AH-1G KING COBRA (modification of the preceding). These have various types of integral and outboard armaments: TOW launcher units, TAT-102 turret mounts with 7.62-mm MINIGUNS, XM-28's with two MINIGUNS and XM-197's with triple 20-mm cannon. XM-20 units also have two six-barrel 7.62-mm MINIGUNS.

The following types of transport and assault helicopters (from division assets) are used to carry personnel, arms and equipment: VH-TB, VH-1C, 1D, 1E and 1H IROQUOIS with a capacity of 12-15 men (or 1,800 kilograms). This type has the following armaments: 6 TOW launchers, a 7.62-mm MINIGUN, 2 triple VULCAN guns, a 40-mm automatic grenade launcher and 2 units of 18 70-mm free rocket launchers each. Thus even the transport helicopters have their own armaments. United States Army aviation's helicopter inventory continues to receive improved models of helicopters for various purposes. Their armaments, performance characteristics and combat capabilities are all being improved.

In the offensive, a heliborne assault force can be used to seize and hold important areas (sectors) in the enemy defensive system or to exploit a successful offensive in depth, or to conduct strikes ahead of advancing troops; to seize crossings, crossing facilities and important installations such as radar stations, control points, communications centers and the like; to destroy nuclear delivery systems, rocket launcher installations and field storage areas for nuclear weapons; and to prevent the enemy from withdrawing or coming up from the depth and regrouping along the front in defile.

In defense they can operate on the routes by which subunits are brought up from the depth of the defense or held important terrain, command posts, crossings, heights and passes; or replace losses of first-echelon subunits and cover unoccupied sectors of the defensive system.

In the meeting engagement, the assault force can be sent against roads along which enemy subunits are moving, in order to attack them from the flanks and rear, and also to prevent seizure of favorable natural lines or positions.

It is considered that an assault unit consisting of a reinforced platoon should be able to hold out for at least 3-4 hours until the arrival of forces advancing from the front.

To seize crossings, passes, landing areas or antiaircraft missile or radar station positions, the assault unit is landed in two or three places as close as possible to the target. After assembly, the assault unit attacks the

target simultaneously from several directions. The decisive moment in landing the assault group is the time at which the first helicopter touches down. The platoon personnel exit the helicopters rapidly and move out of the landing area. This takes 10-20 seconds with good training. The reason for this speed is that at this moment the helicopter is a highly vulnerable target. In addition, it is necessary to assure maneuver for the following helicopters.

After the landing, the assault unit immediately proceeds to seize the landing area. The detachments rapidly move to their assigned sectors, located at the perimeter of the landing area. The lead detachments are followed by sappers, who locate and neutralize mines and open corridors through obstacles.

Next the assault unit immediately proceeds to carry out its combat mission. Fire support helicopters are aloft and ready to cover and support its operations. After the landing area is seized, the platoon can exploit its success by seizing an important installation or can dig in at the line or position which it has seized.

Thus the United States Army command is persistently seeking out the most effective means of employing small subunits as heliborne tactical assault units.

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## CONTENTS OF INDIVIDUAL PERSONNEL FILES DESCRIBED

Moscow ZNAMENOSSETS in Russian No 5, May 79 signed to press 20 Apr 79 pp 30-31

[Interview: "What Should Be Known About the Individual Personnel File?"]

[Text] In their letters to the editors, many land-based and seagoing warrant officers ask us to comment on the maintaining of individual personnel files [lichnoye delo] and on the part which they should play in putting them together. These questions are answered by Colonel P. Korobkov (Main Personnel Directorate, USSR Ministry of Defense).

[Question] What is the procedure for assembling and maintaining the individual personnel file?

[Answer] The individual personnel file is the main personal accounting document for land-based and seagoing warrant officers. It reflects their active military service from the first to the last day. It brings together the documents which decide questions of assignment, transfer, decorations, awarding of privileges, discharge, pension awards and the like. In addition, the individual personnel file reflects the service status of land-based and seagoing warrant officers and their attitude toward performance of their service duties, their moral and combat qualities and other aspects of their activity.

[Question] Where are the individual personnel files of land-based and seagoing warrant officers kept?

[Answer] Individual personnel files for servicemen beginning active military service as warrant officers are assembled by the unit [chast'] staffs, while those for persons called up from the reserves are held in the military commissariats. Thereafter, correct and timely entries should be made of all changes in service career, party status, education, family status and other information.



[Question] What materials and documents are kept in the individual personnel file?

[Answer] The main document in the personnel file is the service record [posluzhnoy spisok]. In addition it should contain: the candidate's autobiography and declaration of voluntary entry into military service; service, party or Komsomol recommendation; an extract from the chast' commander's order enrolling him as a candidate for warrant officer; copies of documents on his education and of his birth certificate; certificates confirming individual periods of service; and other documents.

The service records chronologically all periods of active military service. It indicates the time of callup and of taking the military oath, entry into service as a warrant officer, and the length of this service. The service record also contains information on social origin, party membership, education, independent labor activity before service in the USSR Armed Forces, tours of duty in remote regions or on the borders, participation in combat actions in defense of the Homeland (important for determining war participants' privileges), discharge from active military service and the like.

All entries recording service should be made only on the basis of the relevant orders. When it is necessary to revise entries in this record, warrant officers must make a timely report of the fact so as to have changes and additions entered in the individual personnel record.

Warrant officers should acquaint themselves with the entries in the service record in their personnel file before they go to a new service posting or apply for discharge, as well as in other cases with the permission of the chast' commander or chief of the personnel office. If any inaccuracies are found in the records, they must be reported to these officers for removal.

[Question] How are warrant officers' individual personnel records transferred when they receive a transfer or are discharged?

[Answer] When warrant officers are transferred, the requisite entries are made in their individual personnel file; these are authenticated by the signatures of persons in authorities and by seals. Warrant officers' individual personnel records are transferred: directly to the chast' of the new post, when the warrant officer is transferred from one chast' to another; to the proper military educational establishment when he is posted for education and relieved of his regular duties; to the personnel organ of the office to which he is detailed when detailed elsewhere; and to the military commissariat of the location in which he is registered in case of discharge from active military service. Strict deadlines have been established for the transfer of personnel records.

In case a warrant officer does not on discharge go to the place of residence shown in the discharge order, before his departure he must report the fact to the chast' staff and designate the military commissariat with which he should be registered.

This makes it possible to send his personnel file to the proper military commissariat in good time and means that he is enabled to arrange his pension, obtain his documents and begin work expeditiously.

[Question] What kinds of entries are made in the warrant officer's personnel files when he is discharged to the reserves or retired?

[Answer] In this case the wording of the discharge order is recorded in the service record: this includes indication of the article and paragraph of the Regulations for Performance of Military Service by Land-Based and Seagoing Warrant Officers of the USSR Armed Forces according to which he is discharged and the order removing him from the chast' personnel rolls, with the numbers of these orders indicated. In the case of a person discharged for illness, the findings of the medical board are included in the file.

[Question] What is the procedure for computing and confirming length of service when a warrant officer is discharged to the reserves or retired?

[Answer] Length of service is computed on the basis of documents and materials in the personnel file. This requires timely and careful checking of all of the warrant officer's periods of service, comparison with the data in the autobiography, certificates and supplementary documents, and conformation from orders or relevant documents.

For confirmation of individual periods of service, chast' commanders, the chiefs of institutions, establishments and personnel office, and the military commissar must take expeditious measures to find the necessary data and must make inquiries to locate the required certifications and other documents in accordance with applicable directives.

After confirmation of all periods of service, the personnel office and finance service make an accounting of years of service for pension purposes, with which the warrant officer must be acquainted. Objections to the calculated length of service by the latter are reviewed by the abovementioned organs, which also make the necessary decisions.

All problems connected with the assembly of the individual personnel file should be resolved by the chast' staff at the place of service of the land-based or seagoing warrant officer.

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## TECHNICAL SUPPORT OF ARMED FORCES DISCUSSED

Moscow AGITATOR ARMI I FLOTA in Russian No 20, Oct 79 signed to press  
11 Oct 79 pp 19-22

[Article by Col G. Gusev, candidate of historical sciences: "An Important Component of Combat Readiness"; this article is recommended for use in preparing for political lessons on the subject: "The Concern of the CPSU for the Technical Equipping of the Armed Forces. Master Combat Equipment and Weapons Persistently"]

[Text] The equipping of the Armed Forces with the most modern weapons with which the imperialists cannot fail to reckon is a subject of constant concern of the Communist Party and the basis of its military-technical policy.

Combat equipment and weapons comprise the material base of the strength and might of the Soviet Armed Forces. They are among the decisive factors in the combat readiness of the Armed Forces. V. I. Lenin taught that victory cannot be won in modern war without the proper armament and the ability to employ it. Combat equipment and weapons, Vladimir Il'ich pointed out, exert a tremendous influence on the course and outcome of war, for in war "the one who has the greatest equipment, organization, discipline, and the best machines prevails."

V. I. Lenin outlined ways for the technical equipping of the Soviet Armed Forces. The chief one was the comprehensive development of the country's economy and primarily heavy industry. V.I. Lenin allotted an important role to the development of transportation, science, and technology.

The party is following the Lenin behests unswervingly. It conducted and is conducting tremendous work on the technical equipping of the Armed Forces. As a result of the implementation of the Lenin plan for building socialism, our country was transformed into a mighty socialist power with a highly developed economy in a shortest historic period. This permitted accomplishing the technical reequipping of the Armed Forces and increasing their combat might considerably.

The Communist Party accomplished the most difficult task of the rearming and material-technical support of the Armed Forces in the years of the Great Patriotic War. If at the start of the war the army of fascist Germany, based on the military-economic capabilities of almost all of Europe, had an advantage in quantity of new combat equipment and armament, by the end of the war the situation had changed fundamentally. Our army was four times superior to the enemy in guns and mortars, more than three times superior in tanks and self-propelled artillery pieces, and eight times superior in combat airplanes.

The lessons of the last war call for constant vigilance. The Soviet Union and the fraternal socialist countries consider the invariability of imperialism's aggressive nature, its reluctance to make a sober estimate of the correlation of forces which has developed, and its striving to attain military superiority over the socialist countries. Therefore, readiness to repulse the aggressor and concern for the technical equipping of the Armed Forces are the most important directions in the policy of the CPSU. Speaking at the 25th CPSU Congress, Comrade L. I. Brezhnev spoke about the great work accomplished by the party in equipping the Armed Forces with contemporary weapons and combat equipment and stressed that henceforth, too, our party will be concerned that our Armed Forces have all necessary means for the accomplishment of their important mission--to be the guardian of the Soviet people's peaceful labor and the bulwark of universal peace.

The Strategic Missile Forces are the basic combat might of the Soviet Armed Forces. Contemporary missiles are capable of carrying charges of tremendous destructive force, crossing great distances, and launching accurate and inevitable strikes against the aggressor at any point in the world. They possess exceptionally high combat readiness. They have a reliable system of control which ensures sniper hit precision at all ranges. The protection of missile launchers against the possible effects of enemy nuclear weapons has grown considerably.

The development and improvement of the Ground Forces, the most numerous and diverse service of the Armed Forces as regards armament and technical equipping, is continuing. The Ground Forces are equipped with contemporary operational and tactical missiles, tanks, infantry combat vehicles, and new models of artillery armament. The numerous combat arms of these troops are developing at high rates.

The combat readiness of the National Air Defense Forces, which are rightly considered troops in constant combat readiness, is continuously increasing. They now include air defense missile troops, missile-carrying fighter aviation, and radio and special troops. Contemporary radar equipment and means for automated control guide air defense missiles and airplanes to the targets precisely even if they execute a maneuver or employ radio jamming. The Air Defense Forces are covering the country's important objectives reliably.

The Air Forces are a formidable and might service of the Soviet Armed Forces. The basis of the might of today's Air Forces consists of missile-carrying

airplanes equipped with the most modern armament, means for detecting the enemy and fire control, and the latest navigation equipment. Their inventory includes multipurpose airplanes with variable wing geometry and vertical takeoff and landing aircraft. Thanks to new equipment, aviation has acquired such high qualities which are necessary for successful operations as an all-weather and year-round combat employment capability and the capability to accomplish the most difficult combat missions.

Our Navy's might is growing. In recent years, it has been augmented with new ships and is now an aggregate of carefully balanced fighting arms: submarines, surface ships, naval aviation, coastal artillery-missile troops, and naval infantry. The basis of its might consists of submarines with nuclear power plants and missile armament. It combines such qualities as secrecy, mobility, unlimited cruising range, and colossal striking power. The fleet has contemporary technical equipment for navigation, communication, and control. The creation of an ocean-going fleet is one of the outstanding labor exploits of our people.

Thus, on the basis of the Lenin teaching on the defense of the socialist fatherland and developing it creatively under contemporary conditions, the Communist Party, its Central Committee, and Comrade L. I. Brezhnev personally are doing everything necessary for the further technical equipping of the Armed Forces. The Armed Forces have climbed to a new stage of development and acquired a number of qualities which permit accomplishing with great reliability any missions in the defense of our beloved motherland and all countries of the socialist commonwealth.

Military affairs do not mark time. Weapons and combat equipment are continuously being improved. In accordance with this, the Communist Party and the Soviet government require ensuring the rapid putting of new weapons and combat equipment into operation and their maintenance in good working condition and constant readiness for action. For this purpose, it is necessary that each serviceman learn to take from his weapon and combat equipment the maximum that is built into it and understands clearly that a further increase in the combat readiness of the subunit, unit, or ship is directly dependent on the skillful mastery of the weapons and combat equipment entrusted to them by all personnel.

The strength of combat equipment and weapons can be manifested in full measure only when it is combined with the high skill of the men. The experience of past wars showed convincingly that the equipping of troops with modern weapons and combat equipment acquires real value with their most rapid mastery. Hence it is the first duty of each serviceman to learn to hit the target with the first round, launching, or pass, at maximum ranges, and at any altitudes and to make full use of the speed, altitude, maneuver, protective, and other qualities of contemporary armament.

A typical feature of our contemporary combat equipment is that almost all its models are crew-served weapons. Missile, aviation, and air defense complexes, the airplane, tank, gun, combat vehicle, ship--they all are very



complex systems in the combat employment and servicing of which entire sections, crews, and shifts participate. Therefore, organization, discipline, the high personal responsibility of each serviceman for the assigned matter, and knowledge of an allied specialty as well as his own acquire significance as never before. It is important to remember that the mistake of even one specialist in the employment of complex assemblies, units, and systems of combat equipment can delay or even cause the failure of an important combat mission.

The basis of combat preparedness consists of the field, aerial, and sea ability of the personnel. Training which is conducted under difficult conditions which approximate combat reality to the greatest degree permits instilling in the personnel confidence in the reliability of weapons and equipment, a high offensive spirit, moral-combat qualities, and increasing their psychological tempering. On field exercises, on flights, and on naval cruises the Soviet servicemen sharpen their combat ability, acquire firm skills and the ability to conduct active and decisive combat operations, change from one type of combat to another, and demonstrate bravery and endurance, resolve and boldness in the attack and stubbornness in the defense.

In the course of joint exercises of the Armed Forces services, their contemporary capabilities are disclosed most strikingly and completely. The "Shchit-79" [Shield], "Neman," and other troops exercises conducted this year were a serious test of their combat maturity. They demonstrated the ability of the troops to accomplish the most difficult missions in any situation.

Socialist competition is a mighty means for mobilizing the men for the accomplishment of tasks of combat and political training. The Lenin instruction to "go /farther without fail/ [in italics] and achieve /more without fail/ and to move without fail from easier tasks to more difficult ones" is being implemented consistently. The initiators of the competition in the services of the Armed Forces called upon the men of the Armed Forces to join actively in the struggle for higher positions in training and service.

The Communist Party and the Soviet government require of the men not only excellent knowledge and the effective employment of weapons and combat equipment, but also their correct servicing and skillful preservation. For their condition, durability, and high reliability in operation depend on this. The rules for the preservation of combat equipment and weapons are clearly defined in the instructions and manuals. Strict and undeviating observance of these documents' requirements is the law for all personnel.

The daily life of the Armed Forces is rich with examples of the exemplary accomplishment of their military duty by the personnel and of the skillful mastery of combat equipment and weapons. Thus, Sergeants V. Kuznetsov, S. Khorshenko, and V. Popov distinguished themselves in one of the units. Under difficult weather conditions and firing antitank guided missiles, they accomplished all training-combat missions successfully. The senior commander who was present at the firings noted their irreproachable combat ability and awarded them valuable gifts. The men of one of the units in the Red

Banner Urals Military District are demonstrating high combat ability. During a recent visit to this unit member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and Minister of Defense USSR, Marshal of the Soviet Union D. F. Ustinov, expressed satisfaction with the high combat readiness of the sub-units, the initiative and activity of the men in mastering contemporary weapons and combat equipment, and their readiness to give all their strength to the noble cause of the motherland's defense.

Each day on the concluding positions of the training year, the activity of the Armed Forces personnel is brilliantly displayed in the accomplishment of standing missions and the striving to raise their military skill tirelessly. And in the new training year, each serviceman must work with a great return, bearing in mind that the training year will be the 110th anniversary of V. I. Lenin's birth, the year of the conclusion of the Tenth Five-Year Plan, and the year of preparation for the 26th CPSU Congress.

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6367

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## U.S. ARMED FORCES: ROLE FROM SOVIET VIEW

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[Article by Maj Gen R. Simonyan, doctor of military sciences: "The U.S. Army--A Weapon of Coercion"]

[Text] The organs of the American bourgeois press, radio, and television have not and do not spare any strength in order to inspire the myth of the "glorious historic path" of the United States Army and that it is allegedly the "servant of science" and the "servant of the people." The falsity of such assertions is completely obvious. It is disclosed by life itself and by specific historic facts.

The United States Army was created in the fire of the struggle for American independence. But, being born in this just war more than 200 years ago, it did not become a people's army. For all the years of their existence and now, the U.S. Armed Forces are the main support of class domination and coercion and the main weapon in the conduct of American imperialism's aggressive policy. They are preparing for aggression and brigandage in an intensified manner and are widely used for purposes of political and military blackmail, attacks on peace-loving countries, the struggle against the national liberation movement in various countries, and reprisals against the working people of their own country.

Thus, in the U.S. Army Manual, "Operations Against Irregular Forces," it is pointed out that special subunits manned by regular army personnel, the civilian police, and personnel from the counterintelligence service should be created to eliminate disorders among the civilian population, to fight against guerrillas, and for round-ups, searches, and the confiscation of property.

In explaining the provisions of official manuals the organ of the U.S. Marine Corps, MARINE CORPS GAZETTE, wrote in particular: "When the command is given to open fire against rioters, it should be conducted in the most effective manner--one should shoot to kill. And first of all it is necessary to have the instigators and ringleaders in the front sight."

In addition to domestic legislation, an entire series of secret agreements exists both within the framework of military-political alliances knocked together by Washington as well as between the United States on the one hand and her junior partners on the other. At the end of the 1960's and in the 1970's, the world community learned about the existence of three secret documents such as "OPLAN 10-1," "OPLAN 100-1," and Manual "FM 30-31" which shed light on the true goals of the U.S. military presence in Europe and the creation of imperialist military blocs.

From "OPLAN 10-1" it is evident, for example, that special U.S. formations exist and are operating in Western Europe. Their mission is the conduct of broad measures in the case of "extraordinary conditions"--from sabotage, subversion, secret propaganda, and psychological actions to military operations with the employment of nuclear, chemical, and biological weapons.

The special functions and missions of U.S. troops quartered in Europe are also discussed in another Pentagon document--in "OPLAN 100-1." According to this plan, under "extraordinary circumstances" the United States should secure for itself unlimited rights in European countries: to introduce and employ any weapon on their territory, use the information of national intelligence services, and punish and grant pardons at its own discretion. And the main thing--in the NATO countries American troops can suppress any movement "which threatens the strategic interests of the United States" and assume complete authority in its own hands.

As regards manual "FM 30-31," in the words of the Italian weekly EUROPEO "it sets forth in detail how and with the aid of what procedures the forces which are interested in interference in the internal affairs of countries allied with the United States" intend to operate. The document which is mentioned envisions, in particular, such procedures for subversive actions as bribery, blackmail, provocations, terrorist acts, murder of political and public figures, and the introduction of paid agents in the groupings of both left as well as right extremists. As is clear from the manual, the Pentagon is also planning direct military intervention by the American army in the case where the policy of one or another country "allied" with the United States no longer satisfies Washington's requirements.

To hold her allies in aggressive blocs in check--this is the meaning of these and other secret plans of the American imperialists which are being kept secret from the public.

The scales of the use of the U.S. Army abroad is evidenced by studies conducted by the Brookings Institute. Here are its results: "In the period from 1946 through 1975 the American armed forces were deployed 215 times in support of political goals...." And this means that during these 30 years the U.S. Army was used an average of 7.2 times per year to attain the "goals of the United States' national policy."

The concept of the U.S. Army as a weapon of brigandage would be incomplete if we did not refer at least briefly to those unprecedented crimes which it

accomplished during the criminal war of the United States in Indochina. Here, the American army widely employed napalm, toxic agents, and other means intended for the mass destruction of people.

The imperialists spared no resources to accomplish these monstrous crimes. According to the estimates of Washington specialists, expenditures on the war in Indochina were about 140 billion dollars. The American press presented a different figure--240 billion dollars.

"An unbroken chain of shameful failures--this is how the adventuristic intentions of the American aggressors turned out in practice," it said in the appeal of the 24th CPSU Congress, "Freedom and Peace for the Peoples of Indochina!" "They could not smash the will of the people of a socialist country with bombs and shells or the guile of political intrigue--the people of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam and the patriots of South Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia. It will also be like this in the future."

Life completely confirmed this prediction. It shows that in our time the imperialists are no longer able to dictate their will and master the destinies of other peoples. The steadfastness and bravery of the peoples of Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia and their resolve to follow the path of socialism and progress with the comprehensive support of the Soviet Union and the fraternal socialist countries won in this war.

Suffering defeat in Indochina, the Pentagon is not only not curtailing its military presence in various regions of the world but, on the contrary, is trying to strengthen it. Suffice it to say that the Pentagon now has at its disposal more than 2,500 military bases and posts (in more than 30 countries) and more than 500,000 American soldiers and officers are counted at them.

The intensification of the U.S. Army's police function is also shown by plans to create a "Quick Response Corps." In case of "extraordinary circumstances" in the "planet's hot spots," this corps with a strength of 110,000 men consisting of U.S. Marine, Air Force, Naval, and Ground Force units is to protect American interests. Here it is stressed that one of the areas of probable operations by the American interventionist forces is the Near East.

Such are the facts. They tell us that the U.S. Armed Forces, being the powerful strike force of American imperialism, are preparing to unleash aggression beyond the borders of the country along with the accomplishment of their police functions within the country in an intensified manner.

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6367

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## L'VOV HIGHER MILITARY-POLITICAL SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

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[Article by Lt Col V. Ilyk, correspondent of AGITATOR ARMII I FLOTA: "From Theory--To Practice: The Skills of Oral Agitation for the School's Officer Candidates"]

[Text] The L'vov Higher Military-Political Order of the Red Star School is 40 years old. Its predecessor was the Bryansk Military-Political School which was established in 1939 and trained political instructors with a secondary military-political education for subunits.

The school has trod a glorious path, producing thousands of political personnel of various categories in four decades--political instructors and commissars, deputy company and battalion commanders for political affairs, battalion party and Komsomol organizers, cultural-educational workers, and military journalists. Among them are Heroes of the Soviet Union P. Gora, M. Gaynutdinov, M. Filimonov, F. Yefremov, and others. Today the sons and grandsons of the frontline fighters are in the ranks of the officer candidates.

The school has two faculties: for cultural-educational work and for journalism. In mastering military and special knowledge, the officer candidates make a deep study of the course of party-political work in the Soviet Armed Forces. They understand that the political officer--the party's political fighter and engineer of human souls--must have the skillful mastery of his mighty weapon: the party's combat word. Therefore, the officer candidates employ knowledge of the scientific bases and Lenin principles of party propaganda and oral political agitation in the course of training and probationary work with the troops as well as during hours for political-indoctrinational work and during nontraining time. This is discussed in the notes being published.

The students learn the art of contact with people and the ability to appear before them with reports as well style of speech from their instructors. Their personal example plays a large role. And much is important here: the high level of the lectures, the intelligibility of consultations, participation in mass-agitation work, and the striving to transmit to the pupils a wealth of teaching experience.

Realizing their party duty, the instructors utilize all possibilities to mold the skills of oral presentations in the officer candidates. Especially important significance is attached to seminar lessons. A creative approach to their conduct is a permanent task which is being accomplished successfully in the departments of party-political work, political economy, and others.

For example, consultations are conducted for speakers at a seminar. In this regard, when the officer candidate has already mastered his subject and worked out a variant of his report. This confidence offers him scope for initiative. On the consultation, the plan for the report and its content are corrected and the speaker receives advice on the final polishing of his presentation. One or two specially appointed reviewers speak in the course of the seminar. They analyze the report in detail--from its ideological-theoretical level to the grammatical correctness of the speech, pureness of diction, and ability to maintain contact with the audience.

This approach to the matter accustoms the officer candidates to have a responsible attitude toward preparation for public presentations, especially in the role of political informant of a training group. This is one of the forms for generating the skills of oral political agitation in the future political officers. It imposes high demands on the activist. For his word is directed toward his comrades-in-studying who obtain the same volume of knowledge as he does and are continuously working to improve themselves. The level of their informational state is rather high. Consequently, the information period, talk, or report will be successful if the political informant is able to interest the officer candidates with both a timely subject and his skill of presentation and if his words do not digress from deeds.

/"There are many good political informants in the subunit. They include Officer Candidate G. Polishchuk. His work is distinguished primarily by its operational quality and combat vitality. He studies well and enjoys authority among his comrades. Consequently, he has the moral right to be a political informant. The working notebook of the activist contains a variety of examples and facts from the life and training of the officer candidates and extracts from materials of the periodical press. Polishchuk makes skillful use of them in his work"/[in boldface].

This testimonial by Officer Candidate A. Tekerev gives a high evaluation of the political informant's work. However, it happens that individual activists work according to the principle: they give the order, I'll begin the narration. The officer candidates themselves impose strict demands on such activists.

Practice has demonstrated that the one who always displays activity in the seminar lessons is also the one who is bolder in the role of political informant and appears before his comrades more often. He is the one who accomplishes more successfully the duties of member of the Lenin room council, editor of the operational news sheet or radio newscast, or ad hoc deputy company commander for political affairs on a trip to the field. All this helps the officer candidates to master various forms and methods of agitation.

Another reserve for improving agitation skill is participation in the study groups of the military-science society of the officer candidates (VNOK). The working out of scientific reports, abstracts, reports, and reviews of literature on the study groups' subject matter and their discussion permit the officer candidates to master methodological procedures and develop the practical skills of the lecturer and speaker. They learn to systematize facts, analyze events and phenomena, make correct generalizations, and draw correct conclusions. In discussing the works, the officer candidates express their opinions, evaluate their content, and give advice on polishing the abstract or report. In the course of such discussions and sharp polemics the members of the study groups strive for their presentations to be interesting and convincing.

Being occupied with scientific work, the instructors serve as examples for their pupils. In the school there are now more than 30 candidates and doctors of sciences. Other instructors are preparing for the defense of their dissertations, among whom are school graduates Major G. Krivosheya and Captain V. Fersinkov.

/"An important part of the scientific research work of the professor-instructor staff of the school is the direction of the VNOK study groups and individual work with officer candidates in attracting them to scientific search. Scientific work of the officer candidates under the direction of an instructor is a large reserve in improving the quality of training.

"Now about 90 percent of the officer candidates in the school are occupied with scientific work."

From the school newspaper POLITRABOTNIK  
[Political Officer]/ [In boldface]

This year Officer Candidate V. Karaban' completed work on an interesting report on the history of the development of weapons and methods for combating tanks. The members of the military-history study group which is headed by Colonel Yu. Makarov congratulated the comrade with his creative success.

Many such examples can be presented. The enthusiasm of the seniors engenders in the officer candidates the striving to test themselves in scientific research activity. The abstracts of Officer Candidates K. Grechishkin

and A. Groza, Sergeant V. Rubtsov, and several others were cited by the competition commissions in the school and received a high evaluation at the republic and army-wide competitions.

The creative activity of the officer candidates is having a beneficial effect on their training. VNOK participants demonstrate deeper knowledge on examinations and tests. Moreover, they work more actively during probationary work with the troops and conduct varied mass agitation work during the period of vacations and leaves. Their appearances before servicemen, school pupils, the working youth, and predraftees are evaluated highly by subunit commanders, supervisors of schools and enterprises, and military commissars.

Training and the entire tenor of life offer great possibilities for molding the skills of oral political agitation in the officer candidates. And the facts convince us that the effective solution of this problem depends on the unity of theory and practice. It is important to consolidate comprehensive knowledge in daily work with people. Only under this condition will the school's graduates be prepared for the first steps of the young officer-indoctrinator among the troops.

Much has been done to teach the officer candidates methodological skill and for their practical participation in oral political agitation. The decree of the CPSU Central Committee, "On further improvement in ideological and political-indoctrinational work," the decree of the CPSU Central Committee and the Council of Ministers USSR, "On the further development of the higher school and improving the quality of specialist training," and materials of the all-union conference of ideological personnel are directing commanders, political officers, instructors, and all communists toward the improvement of this work.

The party committee, subunit party organizations, and the department have outlined specific measures to satisfy the requirements of these documents. And they proceeded correctly where, in the plans, they did not overlook such questions as increasing the activity of the officer candidates in social work, monitoring the accomplishment of party and Komsomol assignments, and assistance for the agitation activists. This has a beneficial effect on the training of qualified political officers who are capable of conducting mass-agitational work with consideration of contemporary conditions.

The officer candidates are greeting the anniversary of their school with new successes in training. Under the direction of experienced instructors, they are passing through a school of ideological growth, army training, and moral tempering. The new generation of political officers is adding to the wealth of traditions of one of the oldest military-political educational institutions. Models of its first graduates--political instructors and commissars--live in the hearts of the officer candidates of the 1970's and summon them to new achievements in honorable soldierly labor.

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6367

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## PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE: WESTERN METHODS DISCUSSED

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[Article by Maj Gen D. Volkogonov, doctor of philosophical sciences, professor: "Imperialism's Psychological Warfare and its Methods. For the Agitator for Talks"; passages enclosed in slantlines printed in boldface]

[Text] Plan for talks:

1. What is "psychological warfare?"
2. Psychological warfare methods.
3. Counteraction to psychological warfare.

In our time, despite some improvement in the international climate which was achieved thanks to the activity of the CPSU and other fraternal parties, the acuteness of the class clashes between the world of socialism and capitalism has not been blunted. It is being waged especially fiercely in the spiritual and ideological field. As stressed in the decree of the CPSU Central Committee, "On further improvement in ideological and political-indoctrinational work," imperialist propaganda with which the propaganda of the Beijing chauvinists and aggressors is now interacting openly is continuously waging a furious offensive against the minds of Soviet people and, using the most refined methods and contemporary technical equipment, is striving to poison their consciousness by slandering Soviet reality, cast slurs on socialism, and embellish imperialism and its predatory, inhuman policy and practice.

In this spiritual aggression of imperialism, an important place is occupied by so-called "psychological warfare"--/a system of imperialism's ideological influences which are directed at the consciousness of people primarily through the sphere of public psychology./ This is the system of actions (rumors, misinformation, threats, show of force, blackmail, intimidation, deceit, and so forth) which has the goal of making man spiritually weak, unconfident, and unstable.

Psychological warfare is conducted both in peacetime as well as in wartime. In wartime the imperialist psychological warfare centers intend to paralyze



the will of the personnel of the opposing side for the struggle. In wartime, all the means and methods of imperialism's psychological warfare will be directed toward shaking the international combat comradeship of the men in the socialist armies and causing in them a sense of fear, confusion, panic, and so forth. Of course, these estimates by the imperialist ideologists and politicians are absolutely unrealistic. The entire history of the Soviet Armed Forces tells us that under the most difficult conditions of war or battle and in a situation of a psychological onslaught by any enemy our men displayed firmness of spirit, steadfastness, and confidence in the final victory.

However, this does not mean that we should relax our attention to the ideological and psychological intrigues of imperialism and Maoism. All the more since imperialism is continuously improving the entire mechanism of subversive operations against socialism. The role of psychological warfare which is intended for it by the bourgeois leadership is clearly expressed in a number of documents which have been adopted in several imperialist armies. First of all, using actions of a psychological order the imperialists tried and will try to disorient the Soviet people and Soviet servicemen. They are trying to shatter the moral-political unity of our society and its Armed Forces by accomplishing specific psychological subversive activities. These activities are accomplished with the use of specific methods and procedures.

The most widespread method of psychological warfare is /misinformation/. It is intended for distortion of the truth and its replacement by false facts and conclusions which can deceive an unstable person. "Distortion of information and biased illumination of facts," it is noted in the decree of the CPSU Central Committee, "On further improvement in ideological and political-indoctrinational work," "remaining silent, half truths, and simply impudent lies--everything is put into motion."

Misinformation is accomplished through various channels. Bourgeois and Maoist propaganda makes especially broad use of the mass information means. Suffice it to say that imperialist subversive radio centers broadcast to the Soviet Union a total volume of more than 1,500 radio hours per week in 30 languages of our country's peoples. The distorted interpretation of facts of international life and the situation in individual countries and the biased illumination of the socialist countries' peace-loving steps as well as many other questions have become the standard of bourgeois propaganda.

The /barrage method/ is widely employed to distract the masses' attention from any fact, event, or process which is undesirable for the bourgeoisie. This is usually accomplished as follows. When some important event takes place in countries of the socialist commonwealth (a party congress, outstanding anniversary, national holiday, the attainment of a great success in science, culture, and so on), bourgeois propaganda begins a loud, clamorous campaign around some minor phenomenon or event which often has been organized ahead of time. Usually, the bourgeois centers have in readiness several versions of barrage operations which can be "thrown" into the matter at any

moment. This is also some fuss around some renegade, "new, reliable" facts about an "increase in the Soviet threat," a racket apropos the usual anti-Soviet mob, and so forth.

The hirelings of imperialism, for example, have been trying to use this method recently. In order to justify the arms race, they are spreading false rumors about the alleged "Soviet military threat." Speaking in Berlin on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the GDR, L. I. Brezhnev subjected to valid criticism the attempts of the NATO leaders to untwist a new spiral of the arms race under this pretext and attain strategic superiority over the Soviet Union and its Warsaw Pact allies. The sinister NATO plans for the stationing of new American medium-range missiles and the transformation of Western Europe into a launch site for nuclear weapons directed at the Soviet Union have been exposed before the entire world.

Along with these methods of psychological warfare, perhaps the most ancient of them is widely used--/the rumor-spreading method/. They are also taken to mean information which has no basis. Rumors which are put into "circulation" by bourgeois propaganda are intended primarily for insufficiently competent people with a low level of political consciousness and vigilance. Rumors usually have a tendency toward hyperbolization and being covered with fantastic "details" and "new information."

In order to attach the appearance of truth to the rumors which are being spread, bourgeois specialists often organize actions which demonstrate the "leakage" of objective information which allegedly occurred. Experience shows that those people who are poorly informed are most subject to the influence of rumors. Bourgeois propagandists attach especially great significance to rumors under conditions of war. According to the U.S. Army Manual, "Psychological Operations," as its authors hope, rumors may be the means for "undermining the enemy's spiritual capabilities and creating a moral-psychological atmosphere of confusion and perplexity."

Under conditions of international tension and directly in the course of war, the imperialist subversive centers can make wide use of the method of /intimidation or scaring/. Usually, it is expressed in the spreading of some reports in dramatic notes with the prediction of inevitable calamities, deprivations, and insurmountable difficulties. By exaggerating the might of the forces of imperialism and its capabilities, the propaganda machine of the bourgeoisie will try to cause in people a feeling of doom, impotence, and fear. But history shows that intimidation is dangerous only for the weak-nerved and people who have no self-confidence. High ideological conviction, confidence in one's weapons and combat equipment, and a sense of monolithic comradeship guarantee the successful counteraction against any bourgeois psychological subversion.

As we see, the basis of all psychological warfare methods (those which we have mentioned and a number of others) is formed by the striving to distort and misrepresent the truth and replace it with the myths and notions which the bourgeoisie needs. The bourgeoisie, noted V. I. Lenin, cannot influence

the masses "without a far-flung, systematically conducted, firmly equipped system of flattery, lies, cheating, juggling with stylish and popular catchwords...." The understanding of this profound Lenin thesis concerning "juggling" with the consciousness of people and facts on the part of bourgeois propaganda also permits us to see the basic paths and forms to counteract imperialism's psychological warfare.

Psychological warfare against the socialist countries and their armed forces is being waged by numerous subversive centers which have been established on the territory of the imperialist states. It is sufficient to name some such as the Hoover "Institute of War, Revolution, and Peace" in California, the Hudson Institute which works primarily on requirements of the CIA, the "Institute on Problems of Communism" and the "Russian Center" with Columbia University, the "Center for Strategic Studies" at Georgetown, and many others. We have named only several centers, but about 200 of them exist in the United States alone (institutes, committees, funds, councils, associations, programs, legions, and so forth). The majority of them are subsidized by state budgets, are closely tied to military intelligence, and accomplish specific orders of the military circles.

The imperialist psychological war specialists allocate a special place to radio propaganda. In addition to the widely known anticommunist radio centers--the "British Broadcasting Corporation" (BBC), the "Voice of America," "Free Europe," "Freedom," "Deutsche Welle," and others, dozens of other radio sources exist which conduct subversive propaganda. Imperialism's military propaganda machine also has large technical capabilities. As reported by the American sociologist T. Korfin [as transliterated] in his book "The Passion of the Vultures," "the U.S. troops have 250 big broadcasting stations and 24 television studios overseas alone. And this entire diversionary machine is not inactive for a minute."

The most important spiritual means with the aid of which any bourgeois subversion can be defeated and exposed is a person's communist world outlook and his profound conviction of our historic rightness. "Whisperings" by the radio propagandists of various "voices" present no danger to the convinced serviceman and neither lies nor rumors influence him. At the same time, ideological conviction also presumes irreconcilability toward any intrigues of the class enemies. And this means an offensive attitude and resolve in exposing any fantasies or misinformation of bourgeois propagandists. Irreconcilability toward the hostile is manifested in the serviceman's daily practical activity, in his ability to give a correct political evaluation to events and human deeds and intentions, and in his ability to uphold and defend the correct, class position on various questions.

To be able to defeat and expose psychological sabotage means possessing the ability to demonstrate the complete groundlessness of hostile interpretations of events which are occurring firmly and in a well-reasoned manner and being able to stop rumors and explain the true state of affairs. Here, we cannot fail to see that in attacking our ideology, our morals, and our way of life the spiritual saboteurs have recourse to socialist phraseology and

frequently dress themselves in Marxist clothing. And the ability to distinguish the truth from a lie and friend from enemy is an important quality of each Soviet serviceman. It is generated on political lessons and in the process of mass-agitation work and the entire life of the military collectives.

Therefore the struggle for the successful accomplishment of all plans which have been outlined and of the socialist obligations which have been assumed and the complete accomplishment of the missions posed for the Soviet servicemen by the party is, at the same time, an important method for the ideological and psychological opposition to the class enemy.

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## TURKESTAN POLITICAL CHIEF ON CRITICISM, SELF-CRITICISM

LD071147 Moscow KRSNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 25 Nov 79 p 2 LD

[Article by Lt Gen V. Rodin, member of the Military Council and chief of the Red Banner Turkestan Military District Political Directorate: "Exactingness"]

[Excerpt] It is impossible to seriously develop criticism if we do not respond to it in the proper way and we do not endeavor to implement communists' suggestions. For ignoring criticism is nothing less than a way of suppressing it, and a pretty entrenched way at that. After all, some leaders will listen to criticisms with what appears to be interest and will even praise critics for the pungency of their views and their refusal to tolerate shortcomings but then will not lift a finger to remedy the situation. First communists fail to respond to criticism, then you see a decline in their activeness. That is just what happened in the staff party organization currently headed by Lt Col A. Bubnov.

The question of communists' exemplariness in the fulfillment of their official duties has been raised a number of times at meetings of the organization held during the current year. But no businesslike and principled discussion resulted. It was confined to general appeals and declarative phrases. Meanwhile many deficiencies remained in the work of staff officers. Last-minute bursts of activity were still a feature of the fulfillment of the combat training plan, classes in subunits were still not very efficiently conducted and equipment was not up to the requisite standards. Was no one concerned about this? No, you could not say that. But people preferred to keep silent or else persuaded themselves that all too often their suggestions would fall on deaf ears. Thus criticism declined here, opening the way to complacency, unconcern and a desire by some people to cover up serious deficiencies in work.

Sometimes it is quite astonishing how stubbornly some leaders continue to pursue a mistaken course, supposing that the more assiduously they conceal the real state of affairs in their collective and the more elaborately they "fog" the real picture with optimistic reports and



accounts, the better off the subunit or unit will be. What a delusion! Logic is inexorable here. When you keep quiet about shortcomings it seems like you are avoiding trouble for yourself and other people, while in actual fact you are making the disease more deep-seated, exacerbating it and, what is more, setting an immoral example. After all, whether they like it or not people start to adopt that approach and learn how to be crafty and devious.

I remember how political worker officer Yu. Dolgikh, who is directly responsible for the state of affairs in the party organizations of the subunits under his command, really loved reporting on the number of measures implemented and giving the various figures and percentages. But things went badly in these collectives. There were violations of military discipline in the battalion commanded by Maj N. Boychenko and indicators also fell in the batteries commanded by officers L. Iyasov and L. Yurchenko which were already failing to pull their weight. And although a number of communists spoke with alarm about this at staff party organization meetings, their words failed to arouse officer Dolgikh's concern or to induce him to reconsider his work style. Instead of analyzing in depth the causes of the unhappy situation as regards study and discipline and taking specific steps to improve the situation, including resolutely improving all political education work and developing healthy criticism and self-criticism in party organizations, the unit confined itself to stern administrative measures. At the same time the impression was created that everything was more or less all right.

Even at the session of the district political directorate party commission officer Yu. Dolgikh came ready to deliver a report on what had been done in figures and percentages. But when he was asked why the subunit's moral climate was changing for the worse and communists' criticisms were not getting proper support Dolgikh immediately lost his self-confidence.

Every time you come across cases of this kind you think bitterly of the damage done because some communist leaders fail to support principled people and consider every criticism made of them to be little short of an attack on authority. This is particularly intolerable. Nothing good can be expected of a leader who has adopted such a position when shortcomings are timidly and guardedly discussed at meetings, side-stepping the snags and not identifying specific transgressors. A meeting which proceeds in this manner is a sure sign of an unhealthy atmosphere in a party collective.

[LD071149] Something similar happened in one of our district's subunits. In this case Lt Col M. Klimenko did not want to accept criticism. He saw, for example, criticism voiced at a meeting by secretary of the party organization Capt S. Turdaliyev as an attempt to undermine his authority. The criticism was, moreover, entirely justified. The fact

was, although Klimenko was a member of the party bureau he did not take part in its work and did not fulfill party assignments. He should have heeded a comrade's reproach and drawn his own conclusions. But the lieutenant colonel took it in bad part and began to ignore the secretary altogether. The latter approached him one day for advice on the disposition of communists for work on vehicle servicing day but Klimenko, not concealing his animosity and emphasizing his official position, snapped:

"Comrade captain, who is organizing the work---you or me? Mind your own business."

His relations with Capt I. Kartsev, secretary of the Komsomol organization, became just as bad. The latter said at a party meeting one day that the Komsomol organization was not getting any support from communist Klimenko, whereupon Klimenko reacted most peculiarly. He began casting around for errors and negligence on Kartsev's part and to use any pretext to reproach him and Turdaliyev. The atmosphere in the collective thus become edgy. An attempt was made to stifle criticism supposedly in the name of strengthening the leader's authority.

In the present case it is appropriate to recall an idea of Lenin's: "Military workers' authority...is undermined not by those who point out harmful extremes and remedy them, but by those who oppose the remedy." This is what happened in the case of Lt Col Klimenko. It is entirely his own fault that he lost the confidence of the communists who voted him out at the election for a new party bureau.

Life convincingly confirms the truth of one of the tenets of the CPSU Central Committee resolution "On Further Improving Ideological and Political-Educational Work": The masses' activeness suffers directly wherever criticism and self-criticism are not held in high esteem and wherever public affairs are not conducted sufficiently openly. From this flows the need to develop to the full mutual exactingness among communists and to create in collectives an atmosphere of intolerance toward anything which interferes with the tasks of combat and political training. Work in this area is progressing steadily in the district, and the party meetings at which the question of the present state and the further development of criticism and self-criticism were discussed helped to increase the effectiveness of that work. Together with the increase in the standard of Marxist-Leninist training and of communists' ideological tempering holding such meetings have brought about a marked improvement in the atmosphere of goodwill and high party principledness in the party organizations. People are now more deeply aware that criticism and self-criticism are not an end in themselves but an effective means of improving all ideological, political education and organizational work.

ARMED FORCES POLITICAL DIRECTORATE DISCUSSES IDEOLOGY RESOLUTION

LD121301 Moscow KRSNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 5 Dec 79 p 2 LD

[Unattributed report under rubric "At the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate": "To Raise Ideological Work Efficiency"]

[Text] The question of progress in fulfilling the CPSU Central Committee resolution "On Further Improving Ideological and Political Education Work" has been discussed at the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate. A report was heard from Maj Gen N. Cherednichenko, chief of the Agitprop Department and deputy chief of the Ground Forces Political Directorate.

It was pointed out during the discussion that military councils and army and navy political organs and party organizations are building up their efforts aimed at fulfilling the requirements of the CPSU Central Committee resolution and the recommendations of the All-Union Ideological Workers Conference. The results of combat and political training in the last training year and an analysis of educational practice among the troops give grounds for saying that there has been, on the whole, an increase in ideological influence on the resolution of the tasks facing the armed forces. A significant step forward in taking a comprehensive approach to personnel training has been taken in many formations, units and ships.

At the same time it was emphasized at the conference that, in addition to the positive changes, there are also substantial shortcomings. Some places have still gotten virtually no further than drawing up plans and holding conferences and meetings and implement real measures to improve political education practice only slowly and without proper purposefulness and persistence. Certain commanders, political organs and party organizations lack self-criticism in assessing the state of affairs in this sector and lack boldness and principledness in order to reinterpret their own work style from positions of higher demands and to strive in fact to insure that party organizations are real centers of ideological educational activity.

In a number of places great interest is shown in the number of political education measures on the scale of a unit or even a formation, while there is a far weaker animation of agitprop work in a component such as a company. It is known that the good practice of holding joint political days has become established in the army and navy. This has considerably extended the possibilities for leading personnel of districts, groups of forces, fleets and formations to participate in the personnel's ideological education. However, a touch of formalism in preparing and holding joint political days is already to be observed in some places. Certain comrades do not always prepare earnestly for an upcoming trip to the troops or do not consider it very convenient for them to address a small audience. And yet such an approach reduces to naught the main idea of joint political days: to institute regular contacts between a leader and communist possessing great experience of life and profound knowledge, and the personnel of subunits. To approach a person, to endeavor to start up a dialog with him and to reply as fully as possible to any question he might put--this is the task now facing both lecture propaganda and verbal political agitation.

Political training is one of the chief spheres in the communist education of Soviet soldiers. Much positive experience of its organization has been accumulated. It was pointed out at the conference that commanders, political organs and party organizations must widely introduce that experience and find new reserves for raising the ideological standard and quality of lessons. The Marxist-Leninist training of officer cadres demands special care. The task consists of achieving profound and comprehensive understanding by everyone of urgent questions of party theory and policy and fostering in a person the need for political self-education. It is necessary to assert in every possible way a creative atmosphere during lessons and to eradicate decisively the slightest manifestations of formalism, dogmatism and pedantry.

A considerable proportion of officers are leaders of ensign and warrant officer political study groups and of political lessons with soldiers and sailors, sergeants and petty officers. The quality and effectiveness of lessons depends entirely on the theoretical and methodical standard of this category of propagandists. Therefore the task of carefully selecting group leaders and indefatigably improving their training arises in all its magnitude. But meanwhile, as was pointed out at the conference, certain political departments organize seminars with propagandists hastily, do not always think out their content carefully so as to avoid unnecessary fuss and scorn the differentiated approach and individual work. Such an attitude is inadmissible.

Armed forces personnel have begun the new training year in an atmosphere of high patriotic enthusiasm. Soviet soldiers have perceived as great events the CPSU Central Committee plenum and the second session of the USSR Supreme Soviet, 10th convocation, held in November. Comrade L. I. Brezhnev's speech at the plenum elicited a warm response in the army and

navy. His instructions on questions of organizational, mass political and ideological work must be made the basis of the multifaceted activities of commanders, political organs and party and Komsomol organizations in the new training year. [LD121303] It is important to envelop all key directions of military life in political influence from the first days, to secure the further development of socialist competition and the strengthening of military discipline and law and order and to successfully fulfill the tasks set by the USSR Ministry of Defense for combat training and raising the combat readiness of troops and naval forces. This will be promoted by all organizational and political education work on propagandizing, explaining and studying the materials of the CPSU Central Committee November (1979) plenum and the second session of the USSR Supreme Soviet, 10th convocation.

The results of the conference were summed up by Adm A. Sorokin, deputy chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate.

CSO: 1801



## POLITICAL INDOCTRINATION: TASKS AND METHODS DISCUSSED

LD281623 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 14 Dec 79 pp 2-3 LD

[Article by Maj Gen Prof V. Samoylenko, doctor of philosophical sciences, under the rubric "Developed Socialism: Features and Peculiarities": Important Front of the Struggle for Communism]

[Excerpt] The main directions of ideological work at the present stage were precisely defined by the 25th CPSU Congress. The congress showed the way to raise the ideological standard and effectiveness of this work--the comprehensive approach toward organizing the whole business of education: insuring the close unity of political, labor and moral education while taking into account the particular features of various groups of the working people. The congress decisions have been concretized in a number of CPSU Central Committee resolutions.

On this basis, and also on the basis of Comrade L. I. Brezhnev's speeches and his books "Malaya Zemlya," "Rebirth" and "The Virgin Lands," much has been done in our country to deepen ideological education work and raise its efficiency. While assessing what has been achieved at its true worth, the CPSU Central Committee at the same time deems it necessary and possible to raise ideological work to a higher qualitative level that accords with the demands of developed socialism and the new tasks of communist building.

It is primarily a question of insuring the high scientific standard of propaganda and agitation. And enhancing the scientific nature of propaganda and agitation means revealing increasingly fully and in a more intelligible form the majesty and transforming power of Marxist-Leninist teaching, the theoretical foundations of our party's policy and its tireless activity in strengthening the Soviet motherland's might and in increasing the prosperity of the Soviet people.

The core of ideological and political-educational work was, and still remains, the shaping in Soviet people of a scientific world outlook, boundless devotion to the party's cause and to communist ideals, love for the socialist fatherland, and proletarian internationalism. The shaping of such a world outlook and of such qualities presupposes the masses' thorough

and profound mastering of revolutionary theory, party policy and Comrade L. I. Brezhnev's works.

The effectiveness of political-educational work is to a large extent determined too by the business like efficiency and concrete nature of propaganda and agitation. The main thing today is to perceive the pressing tasks of social development and the ways of solving them, and to know how to apply the propositions and conclusions of the theory of Marxism-Leninism in close connection with topical tasks of the revolutionary struggle and with urgent questions of social practice. The party requires that the main efforts in mounting ideological-educational work be concentrated in the labor collective where, as Comrade L. I. Brezhnev put it, "The great concepts of policy and economics are translated into practical language, where to a large extent the attitude of people toward life and society is shaped."

In particular, the CPSU Central Committee November (1979) Plenum resolution, too, points to the need to improve political and organizational work in the working people's collectives and to direct this work toward the development of the masses' labor activity in every way, toward enhancing organization and discipline and toward increasing responsibility for assigned work.

The mobilizing influence of our ideological work is to a large extent dependent upon the military and attacking nature of propaganda and agitation. This militancy is expressed primarily in support for everything new, progressive and promising and in a resolute struggle against any alien influences and survivals of the past, against everything which hampers progress.

Important, crucial tasks are now confronting our propaganda and agitation in connection with the intensification of the ideological struggle in the international arena. Imperialist propaganda, with which the propaganda of the Beijing hegemonists is now openly cooperating, is constantly waging a fierce offensive against the minds of Soviet people and is seeking to denigrate socialism and embellish imperialism. Under these conditions our propagandists and agitation workers are required to deal a well-reasoned and prompt rebuff to any ideological intrigues and insinuations and to nurture consistently in Soviet people political vigilance, a keen class sensitivity, ideological cohesion and conviction and a readiness to defend the motherland and socialism's gains. It is important to resolutely reveal the irvariable aggressive nature of imperialism and the danger of the arms race which it had launched on an unprecedented scale.

The ideological-political front of the struggle for communism encompasses all the sectors of communist building and all elements of our developed socialist society. And this "all" means the Soviet armed forces too. Much is being done in the army and navy for solving the urgent tasks of ideological and political-educational work--insuring the high scientific standard of propaganda and agitation, intensifying its businesslike efficiency, concrete nature and link with life, and imparting to it a militant, attacking nature.

The commanders, political workers, and the communists in the army and navy greeted with a special sense of responsibility the CPSU Central Committee's demand concerning the further intensification of the educational role of the USSR armed forces, service in which, for young people, is a remarkable school of labor and military skill, moral purity and courage, patriotism and comradeship. The demand concerning the further intensification of the armed forces' education role has been made the basis of the personnel's training and education. Party-political work in the army and navy is aimed at the in-depth comprehension by servicemen of their duty to insure the peaceful labor of the Soviet people and to defend peace and socialism, and at their augmentation of the USSR armed forces' glorious tradition. The all-union conference of ideological workers imparted new impetus to all this activity.

The conference's materials showed convincingly that questions of the practical organization of ideological-educational work are especially topical today. Since the promulgation of the CPSU Central Committee resolution, long-term integrated plans for ideological activity have been compiled in the formations. The main thing now is to organize the verification of execution, and not to lose sight of a single avenue or a single aspect of the whole sphere of communist education.

In order to enhance the effectiveness of political-educational work it is important that the entire mass of servicemen should be encompassed by ideological influence and at the same time that this ideological influence should reach each individual person. And this presupposes the skillful use of all means of ideological and educational influence, and the coordination of the efforts of the commanders, political organs and party and Komsomol organizations.

The ideological front is a permanently functioning front. Political-educational work brooks no stagnation or letup. The dynamism of the socioeconomic processes and spiritual life of Soviet society, the depth of the transformations occurring within it and its ever-accelerating progression along the path toward communism make for this.

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CIVIL DEFENSE: PAMPHLET REVIEWED

LD140953 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 8 Jan 80 p 2 LD

[Article by Maj Gen M. Rakcheyev: "Civil Defense Propaganda" under the rubric "New Books"]

[Text] Soviet people, fulfilling Lenin's command to be ever on the alert, are taking tireless pains over heightening the country's defense capability. Civil defense propaganda, as a constituent part of the military-patriotic education of the working people and especially of young people, has a prominent part to play in tackling this task. How this work is organized in our country and how it will be further improved is explained in Col Gen V. Grekov's pamphlet "Civil Defense Propaganda--An Important Task" (Note) (V. Grekov. [Propaganda Grazhdanskoy Oborony--Vazhnaya Zadacha] DOSAAF Publishing House. 1979 64 pages. Price 10 kopeks).

The pamphlet reveals the main aim of civil defense propaganda--to foster in the Soviet people communist awareness, high political vigilance, patriotism, and a readiness and ability to fulfill their duty to the motherland.

Propaganda of civil defense knowledge, the pamphlet says, is an integral component of work on improving civil defense and is closely connected with the training process. While it is no substitute for special training, it does substantially supplement and enrich it.

On the basis of concrete examples, the author shows the various forms and methods of civil defense propaganda, carried out under the leadership of party organs with participation of trade union and Komsomol organizations.

Playing a big role in military-patriotic education and, in particular, in civil defense propaganda, are the DOSAAF and Red Cross organizations, the "Znaniye Society," the creative unions, cultural institutions, the press, radio and television. The experience of their work in propagating of civil defense knowledge among various categories of working people, student youth and the non-working population is revealed in detail in the pamphlet under review.

The pamphlet is designed for a wide range of readers. Without doubt, it will exert a substantial influence on further improving civil defense propaganda and on heightening its militancy and effectiveness.

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